

Why Street Photography Is More Than Just People

What's poppin people? It's Dante, currently out on the streets of Philadelphia—walking down Samson Street, observing angles, textures, and thinking about something important:

Why you should photograph more than just people in your street photography.

Infinite Novelty on Familiar Streets

When I'm out photographing, I don't just look for people. I look at **infrastructure, buildings, abandoned lots**, and how things *change*. Like today—there's the Blue Cross building in the background, and I'm using a fence to frame it in a new way.

It becomes a fun challenge:

How can I frame the same thing over and over and still find novelty?

That's what street photography is to me.

"Find infinite complexity in the street—even when it feels mundane."

Perspective Is Everything

Sometimes photography feels like a chore. But that's only if you walk the same lane every day *without looking deeper*.

Hold your camera differently. Use:

- **High vantage points**
- **Low angles**
- **Frames within frames**

Unlocking new visual perspectives unlocks *mental* ones too.

Go Slow. Feel the Ground.

I walk in **Vibram FiveFingers ELX**.
Barefoot-style. Minimal. Intentional.

“When you walk barefoot, you slow down. You feel the ground. And when you feel the ground, you start to notice textures—on the walls, on the streets, everywhere.”

Photography becomes **tactile**.
It’s not just light and shadow—it’s *texture*.

Black and White to Abstract Reality

When I shoot in black and white, I strip the world of color and:

“Achieve more novelty by abstracting reality.”

It forces me to pay closer attention—to texture, to form, to feeling.

If you’re curious about how I shoot:

👉 Visit dantesisofo.com and check the **Start Here** page for my Ultimate Ricoh GR Guide.

Or catch videos on

 youtube.com/streetphotography

Expand Your Visual Diet

We often limit ourselves because we've studied photo books or modern trends too much. But:

Follow your curiosity, not the crowd.

- Tinker with compositions.
 - Play with angles.
 - Don't take it so seriously.
-

Change the Street, Change Your Brain

There's real science to this:

"Walking new streets rewires your brain. It builds new neural pathways."

Even just switching sides of the street opens up a fresh perspective. The **mundane becomes new**.

Make Something Out of Nothing

Lately, I've been moving beyond candid people shots—photographing:

- **Walls**
- **Decay**
- **Random textures**
- **Writing on the ground**

“I’m trying to make something out of nothing. That’s more fun.”

Each Shutter Click Is Life Affirmation

The goal isn’t perfection. It’s to press the shutter.
To say yes to life.

“Each click is a question. Each photo is curiosity. That’s the cycle.”

This process:

1. Increases your curiosity
2. Produces more work
3. Documents your growth

That’s the journey.

Photography Is Physical

Street photography demands presence.
It requires you to:

- Walk
- Observe
- Move your body

- Adjust your angles
- Compose with your hands, eyes, and intuition

“The camera becomes an extension of your body.”

Flow, Bliss, and Subconscious Seeing

When you move, you enter the **flow state**.

In that state, you:

- Find joy
- Reflect your inner feeling into the photo
- Photograph from the *emotional*, not just the visual

“Follow what makes you enthusiastic. That’s where you find truth.”

Remain an Amateur

I want to stay an amateur.

I never want to feel like I’ve “done it all.”

“Each day is day one. Each photo could be my last.”

That gratitude changes everything.

It makes each shutter click feel sacred.

Your Next Photo Is Your Best Photo

Forget yesterday's photo. It's over.

The only one that matters?

Your next photo.

Mortality and Meaning

Sometimes I photograph decay—like textures fading on a wall. It reminds me:

“I, too, am a finite flesh creature. I cut, I bleed. I lust. I feel sorrow. I am imperfect.”

And that's okay.

“Maybe you can't live forever—but at least you can make a photograph.”

Final Thought: Photograph Through Your Life

So here's the message:

- **Don't overthink it.**
- **Don't wait for the perfect subject.**
- **Don't plan too much.**

“Just take your camera for the ride and snapshot your way through life.”

Walk aimlessly. Embrace the unknown.
And maybe—just maybe—you'll put some order into the chaos and make something beautiful.
