

## Stop Thinking, Start Shooting: The Mindset Every Street Photographer Needs

### What's popping people? It's Dante.

Getting my morning started here in the Centennial Arboretum.  
Check out all of the beautiful trees.

Today, I'm thinking about why you should keep making photographs — to *keep producing more*.

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### Existence Outside of Time

You know, for me personally, anytime I spend inside,  
I feel like my **soul just slowly dies**.

***But when I'm outside and I'm moving my body, photographing my way through life,  
I exist outside the passage of time.***

I'm not dwelling on the photos I made yesterday, last year, or ten years ago.  
I'm not thinking about what I *could* shoot next week or two months from now.  
I'm focused on the **present moment** — producing photographs *throughout my day*.

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### The Spirit of Play

I think this is the goal:

***To remain in that spirit of play – making pictures through our gut, our intuition, our thumos.***

That **inner fire** within us, that *courage* to make pictures.

Your body is the **vehicle**, and you're *driven by courage* to go out there and produce.

This is the mindset and philosophy I adopt as a photographer.

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### **Creation Over Curation**

Any time I spend inside dwelling on photographs –  
culling, sequencing, dreaming up gallery shows – it doesn't feel right.

I get that artists are supposed to assemble the pieces.  
But still...

***The real juice is in the production of the work.***

***The real power is in making more pictures.***

So I push myself each day through *production*.

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### **Turn Off the Monkey Brain**

My call to action:

***Stop dwelling on the outcome. Stop thinking so much.***

Don't overthink the *why*. Don't obsess about the *who sees it*.

***Just go out there and make pictures.***

It's simple, but you gotta **turn off the thoughts.**

Tap into your *inner child.*

Your **gut.**

That's where all the **magic** happens.

That's where you say *yes* to life — and *photograph more.*

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## **The Photographer's Ultimate Aim**

Isn't this the ultimate aim?

***To be outside in the world — exploring, making sense of the chaos and complexity of life.***

That's where I thrive.

I don't thrive inside wondering what my photos *mean.*

***I'm out here. I'm exploring. I'm photographing.***

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## **Meaning Is Found in the Process**

And the most beautiful thing?

***Photography is up to the individual to give it meaning.***

I find meaning in the **process**.  
I find joy in **discovery**.  
In **tinkering, experimenting, and movement**.

I don't need a final product to validate the work.

***I don't need to make it into a book or exhibition to make it real.***

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## **Just Start Making**

I think we think too much.

***What if there was no goal?***

What if the goal was to **stop thinking**  
and **start making**?

That's where the magic is.

In the **click of the shutter**.

In the **movement of the body**.

***That's where the dopamine is. The joy. The bliss.***

It's the sunlight on your skin.  
The grin on your chin.

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## Motivation Through Movement

Even when you're on the street...

***Stop thinking. Just shoot.***

Contemplating the composition too long?  
That's *stagnation*.

But moving your body, pressing the shutter with your gut?

***That's intuition. That's motivation.***

And that's where the power lies.

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## You Don't Need a Plan

You don't need a plan.  
You don't need a concept.  
You don't need permission.

Just get out there.

***Recognize life as an infinite expanse.  
The world as your endless canvas.***

***Photography is a lifetime journey.***

And the only real way to get somewhere?

**Keep moving.**

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## Just Be.

Stop trying to say anything.

Just be.

***Photography isn't even about thinking.***

***It's about doing.***

***About being.***

***Becoming.***

***Evolving.***

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## Final Thought

***Stop thinking. Start shooting.***

That's it.

Play more.

Dwell less.

Shut it all off.

Operate on autopilot —

but with *laser pinpoint accuracy and precision* from your gut.

**Stop thinking. Start shooting.**

That's my thought.