

The Joy of Street Photography Is Being Around People

What's popping people? It's Staunton.

I'm currently walking down Walnut Street here in Philadelphia, just snapshotting my way through the day.

We have such **beautiful architecture** in Philly. But ultimately, what I'm thinking about today is this:

The supreme joy of practicing street photography is simply being around other people.

The City Is Alive

When you're in the city —
when you're surrounded by chaos, cars, buses, crowds — it's *life in motion*.

It's a hundred degrees out here, apparently.

But what a way to spend time: outside, part of society, on the front lines of life.

This is where I thrive.

I have this dichotomy inside me:

I love nature — pruning plants, making gardens, spending all day in solitude.

But then I step into the streets and... **I come alive.**

A Monk in Society

I'm a monk in society.

I just hugged a stranger I kinda know.
Moments like that — spontaneous, human, raw — remind me why I do this.

Eye contact.
A quick chat.
A shared smile.
That's street photography.

I tinker with the world. I even try to pluck flowers —

but sometimes God makes the stem too strong, like He's saying not this one.

It's the People That Matter

*Just walking and photographing brings joy.
But what really makes **street photography** special is the **people**.*

When you think of street photography, you think of **humanity**.
That's the soul of it. That's what we aim to uplift.

The way you engage with people is what reflects back in your photographs.

Designed for Cities

I believe this deeply:

Humans are designed to live in cities.

We thrive when we're around each other —
when we're part of something bigger — in motion, in community.

Sometimes Philly feels like **ancient Rome** to me,
with its architecture and energy.
It's a blueprint of what civilization can be — and it's a gift to live here.

Why Philly Works

Unlike New York, where the terrain is overwhelming,
Philadelphia is **walkable, tight-knit, and rich with character.**

I can walk from river to river every day — and still find novelty.

I see familiar faces.
I meet strangers that feel like old friends.
It's a **big city with small town vibes.**

There's less anonymity in Philly. That makes it more human.

Best of Both Worlds

What I love most?

***You can photograph chaos on a corner, then escape into the woods of
Fairmount Park.***

You get the best of both worlds —
city and nature, noise and stillness, humanity and solitude.

Final Thought

So yeah — just a simple reflection:

Recognize the beauty of humanity. Try to uplift it with your photography.

Capture the human experience.

Because ultimately, that's what matters most.