

## **Snapshot Photography Changed My Life (Frictionless Ricoh GR Workflow)**

What's poppin', people? It's Dante.

This morning I want to discuss snapshot photography and why this has completely transformed my practice.

I've been practicing photography for over a decade now, shooting in the streets pretty much every single day. I haven't missed a day since adopting photography into my life. It's fueled by this insatiable curiosity about life and humanity.

But here's the thing...

The medium can get in the way.

### **When Photography Became Friction**

There was a point where I separated my identity as a photographer from my everyday life.

That looked like:

- Going out with the intention of making my *next best photo*
- Wearing the camera around my neck
- Planning dedicated trips just to shoot
- Waiting for the "right" conditions

And that attachment to outcome?

It led me to stagnation.

I was chasing greatness... but losing joy.

*“By trying to make great photographs, I found less fulfillment in photography.”*

The repetition, the pressure, the expectation — it started to kill the experience.

### **The Shift: A Frictionless Workflow**

Everything changed when I adopted a frictionless workflow.

Now I carry a compact point-and-shoot — the Ricoh GR — in my front pocket.

- Automatic settings
- JPEG recipe
- Instant feedback
- No heavy editing
- No hard drive headaches

Just a quick click of the shutter.

And I live my life.

### **The Philosophy of the Snapshot**

Snapshot photography isn't about being careless.

I still understand composition. I still frame intentionally.

But the difference is this:

*“The snapshot is about embracing serendipity and spontaneity.”*

I'm no longer forcing moments.

I'm responding to them.

I don't know what the frame will look like. I let the camera interpret reality in that fraction of a second.

And that's where the magic lives.

## **Letting Go of Control**

Before, I would:

- Shoot only in "good light"
- Go to specific locations
- Repeat compositions that worked

That's what led to stagnation.

Now?

I let go.

I shoot everything:

- Overlapping figures
- Abstract moments
- Mundane details
- Fleeting interactions

Even things I don't fully understand.

## **The Power of Imperfection**

With snapshot photography, the beauty comes from mistakes.

From fragments of time.

From things you *can't* see with your eye.

*"It arises through imperfections, mistakes, and the serendipity of the moment."*

You come home and discover something unexpected.

That's the reward.

### **Daily Life Becomes the Subject**

You don't need:

- A perfect location
- A big city
- An "interesting" subject

Your everyday life is enough.

The mundane becomes fascinating.

A sign. A shadow. A glance. A friend.

Everything is material.

### **Repetition Creates Magic**

These moments don't come from chasing.

They come from consistency.

Walking the same path every day.

Being present long enough for something to reveal itself.

*“You can’t go out looking for these moments. They reveal themselves.”*

## **The Flow State**

Snapshot photography is about entering a flow state.

- Shooting quickly
- Thinking less
- Trusting instinct

It’s not about perfection.

It’s about momentum.

## **Creating for Yourself**

I started making small trade books — visual diaries.

No pressure. No expectations.

Just expression.

*“I’m the number one consumer of my own work.”*

That changed everything.

Photography became personal again.

## **Letting Go of Influence**

Early on, I was inspired by big work — conflict, travel, documentary.

But to evolve?

You have to let that go.

Forget what's "good" or "bad."

Forget what's been done.

Just respond to life.

## **The Idea of Flux**

I've systematized this into what I call *Flux*.

Flux is about change.

No two photographs are ever the same.

Before, I could repeat my images.

Now?

That's impossible.

Because I'm following light.

## **Follow the Light**

Photography = writing with light.

And light is always changing:

- Time of day
- Seasons
- Weather
- Movement

So the work never repeats.

It evolves.

Infinitely.

## **Infinite Curiosity**

Now, I wake up excited.

I don't need:

- A specific place
- A specific subject
- A specific outcome

All I need is light.

And curiosity.

*"My next photo is my best photo."*

## **The Snapshot Is Freedom**

This way of working gave me:

- Joy
- Consistency
- Obsession
- Freedom

I haven't stopped shooting for years.

Because I can't.

There's too much to see.

Too much to discover.

### **Final Thought**

Life becomes different when you see this way.

Not just what life *is*...

But what it *could be* through the camera.

*"You can create a new world in a fraction of a second."*

If this resonates with you — lean into it.

Carry the camera.

Let go.

Follow the light.

And just... snapshot your life.