

## **Why I Don't Need a Photography Project**

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

I'm currently walking along Penn's Landing here in Philadelphia, looking out towards the Benjamin Franklin Bridge right now—the beautiful horizon, the water flowing, the sun is out. Just basking in it. It feels good.

And today I'm thinking about photography... and essentially why I don't need a project.

### **The Problem With Projects**

I think the idea of working towards something—whether it's a book, a theme, or a gallery outcome—is extremely limiting.

For myself personally, I've never adopted that mindset.

Instead, I believe in surrendering to the medium of photography.

Letting go. Embracing play. Letting the chips fall as they may.

Photographing openly. Spontaneously. Instinctively.

*You don't think—you respond.*

And there's something special about that.

### **Your Life Is the Project**

I believe in trusting the passage of time. Trusting the process.

And treating my everyday life as the ultimate project.

This is the project.

I am the theme.

When we make photographs, our internal state reflects externally. And to me, that's way more powerful than trying to force a concept or impose structure.

Especially now—when we live in a world flooded with images.

You can generate photos with AI. You can shoot razor-sharp images on any modern camera.

So what actually matters?

Your perspective.

### **Why I Shoot Without a Theme**

I like to move through life without a theme.

Not because I'm lazy. Not because I lack direction.

But because I don't seek a destination.

I just want to keep moving forward.

Keep following the light.

Keep waking up and photographing.

*My ultimate project is to never miss a day of photography.*

To stay in that perpetual flow state of living, practicing, doing.

Because the moment I start overthinking...

I stagnate.

### **The Danger of Overthinking**

Anytime I spend too much time analyzing or planning, I feel it immediately.

My energy drops. My soul starts to fade.

So instead, I move.

I get out.

I create.

I exist in embodied reality.

Even after a decade of shooting, I still don't feel the need to define a project.

If anything, I feel more committed to staying in that instinctual, authentic state.

### **Creativity Without Constraints**

When you walk around with a preconceived idea of what you're trying to make...

You limit yourself.

You close off access to your subconscious.

But when you remove that box?

Now you can explore.

Now all your life experiences flow into the frame.

That irrational pull—the thing that makes you click the shutter—that’s where the real work lives.

### **Photography as a Visual Diary**

I don’t see photography as something separate from life.

It *is* life.

A visual diary.

A record of being.

I’m photographing today because it’s beautiful outside.

The sun is out. The air is crisp. I’m alive.

I can walk. I can see. I can feel.

That’s enough.

### **No Outcome Needed**

I don’t need a book.

I don’t need a gallery.

I don’t need a theme.

To stay motivated.

To keep shooting.

My only goal is to be out in the world, making photographs.

Not planning.

Not forcing.

Just responding.

### **Trust the Process**

Over time, with consistency, things will come together.

You'll find connections.

You'll build something naturally.

But the foundation?

*Doing the thing for the sake of doing the thing.*

That's the real goal.

That's where the fulfillment is.

Not in the outcome.

But in the act itself.

### **Final Thoughts**

Maybe what the world needs right now is more of that.

More honest photography.

More lived experience.

Less structure. Less performance.

More flow.

Right now, I'm just out here at Penn's Landing, taking it all in.

Philadelphia is home. I thrive here.

This place—it's like our beach.

And I'm just walking, observing, responding.

That's it.

See you on the street.

Peace.