

Stop Looking for Interesting Street Photography

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

Today I have a thought.

Don't worry about the content of your street photography.

What do I mean by that?

When most people think about street photography, they already have an image in their head.

The decisive moment.

A kiss between strangers.

Someone leaping across a puddle.

A person wearing a top hat.

All of these preconceived ideas about what a photograph should include end up limiting your ability to actually practice photography.

If you think you already know what you're looking for...

You'll never start photographing.

Everything Is Worth Photographing

Instead of waiting for extraordinary moments, start paying attention to ordinary ones.

Watch the leaves blowing in the wind.

Observe light reflecting across a window.

Notice the texture of a wall.

Look at the patterns and shapes surrounding you.

Pay attention to the movement of people.

A gesture.

A hand.

A footstep.

A facial expression.

That alone should be enough to make you press the shutter.

You shouldn't be dependent on the subject itself being interesting.

Your job isn't to find something interesting.

Your job is to **make it interesting**.

Photography Is Transformation

When you make a photograph, you're trying to transform reality.

You're taking something ordinary and presenting it in a way that becomes more compelling than it appeared in the moment you experienced it.

That's difficult.

But shifting your thinking in that direction completely changes how you approach photography.

You can photograph an object lying on the curb and discover infinite ways to make a picture.

Through framing.

Through light.

Through where you stand.

Through flash.

Through natural light.

The possibilities are endless.

The subject doesn't need to change.

Only the way you see it.

Cultivate Curiosity Instead

Shift your attention away from finding something.

Instead, cultivate curiosity.

This single mindset shift has transformed my own photography more than almost anything else.

There's so much discussion online about what is or isn't street photography.

People debate whether a subject is interesting enough.

Whether a photograph "counts."

Ignore all of that.

Just start photographing.

Photograph the weed growing between the cracks in the sidewalk.

Photograph the reflections.

Photograph the shadows.

Photograph whatever catches your attention.

You'll begin fueling yourself with joy simply through the act of noticing.

Infinite Novelty

I've walked these same streets countless times.

Yet every single day I find something new.

Not because the streets have changed.

Because **I've changed.**

When you approach photography from a place of abundance, you realize you can photograph anything.

Anywhere.

And when a genuinely extraordinary moment finally appears...

You're already ready.

Because you're already in the flow.

You're already clicking the shutter.

You're already seeing.

Stop Consuming. Start Living.

So how do you actually cultivate this mindset?

First...

Disconnect.

Stop watching YouTube.

Including me.

Stop obsessing over galleries.

Stop studying endless photo books.

Stop chasing inspiration through films, podcasts, and social media.

Instead...

Go outside.

Spend time alone.

Spend time in nature.

Walk your streets.

Listen.

Observe.

Feel.

If you always photograph with headphones in...

Take them out.

Listen to the city.

Listen to the birds.

Listen to people talking.

Slowly you'll begin becoming sensitive to life again.

That sensitivity is where photography begins.

Sensitivity Changes Everything

This isn't something you can force.

It might take a week.

A month.

Maybe a year.

Who knows how long you've spent overstimulated.

But eventually something shifts.

The mundane becomes fascinating.

The ordinary becomes extraordinary.

Photography becomes effortless.

Everything starts feeling photographable.

Simple shapes.

Simple light.

Simple textures.

Everything.

My Own Experience

Five years ago, if I walked this same street, I probably wouldn't have made a single photograph.

If the light was flat...

If the sky was cloudy...

If nothing "interesting" was happening...

I would've stayed home.

Back then I depended on golden light.

Interesting people.

Beautiful colors.

Now?

None of that matters.

Cloudy.

Rainy.

Empty streets.

It doesn't matter.

I can always find something because the change happened internally.

Not externally.

Stop Blaming Your Location

People tell me:

"My city isn't interesting."

No.

Your city isn't the problem.

Your way of seeing is.

If you're dependent on your location to inspire you, you've already given away your creative freedom.

The solution, for me, has been abstraction.

My Cheat Code

The practical way I've achieved this is by removing friction.

I shoot:

- High contrast black and white
- Small JPEG files
- Automatic mode
- One simple camera

That abstraction allows me to photograph endlessly.

It feels like a cheat code.

By pushing the contrast to the extreme, I can discover photographs everywhere I look.

Should I keep that secret?

Absolutely not.

If it helps someone rediscover the joy of photography, I want to share it.

Final Thoughts

Stop waiting for interesting subjects.

Stop waiting for the perfect location.

Stop waiting for the perfect light.

Instead...

Become more curious.

Become more sensitive.

Learn to see beauty in the ordinary.

Because once you do, you'll realize there's an infinite number of photographs waiting for you, exactly where you already are.

Thanks for reading.

Peace.