

Scenes from the City
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Foreword

I have a lifelong interest in all aspects of photography. Capturing instants of time and space with a mechanical device affords me great pleasure. And I find that associating with like-minded individuals in technical and social settings is also very rewarding.

Of the many aspects of photography that I have performed, the one that I am most drawn to is street photography, which is, capturing moments of human life in an urban setting, particularly in my native New York City. Within the rich genre of street photography, a number of photographic themes and techniques can be realized for picture making: backlight, silhouettes, shadows, reflections, motion, blur and rain are examples. Different human activities can also be categorized in the city: commuting, working, shopping, and displays of love and affection are commonplace. Interesting moments of city life can be observed in different venues: museums, city parks, subways and commuter trains are examples. Wherever people are in the city and whatever they do, interesting moments are sure to occur which are worth capturing photographically. Observation, patience and a camera are all that are needed.

Photobooks on street photography have been on my mind for some time. A very ambitious goal is to prepare a photobook for each of the individual themes, techniques, activities and venues enumerated above. For the first photobook, I selected the New York City subway as a rich and rewarding venue for observation and capture of people's behavior. It was prepared in response to an Artistic Challenge posed by Laura Warren of the Ridgewood Camera Club and stimulated my thinking about the different aspects of street photography. For this next book, I have decided to mine my photo catalog for imagery for all of the various described elements. The photographs in this book are displayed in the approximate order of date taken using the left-hand image in a spread. The photograph on the adjoining page was selected regardless of chronology but is intended to create a diptych. Photographs were captured from 2010 to 2020.

Many of the photographs herein were captured during photo expeditions to New York City with good friends from the Ridgewood Camera Club: Bob Kane, John Paulyson, Karen Kruger and Vinnie Kempf.

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