

U3A Cambridge Photo Forum 2025-26

Weeks 11&12

Street Photography

Brian Human & Tim Ewbank

Street Photography...



Boulevard du Temple, Louis Daguerre, 1838

- Pictures everyday life in the street (or any public space)
- Relies on happenstance, serendipity and ambiguity
- Explores new insights and relationships – celebration, challenge, criticism
- Is where aesthetics rubs up against ethics and privacy
- Creates a type of picture unique in photography in a way that other genres do not

Why Street Photography?



- Record, bearing witness – historical archive
- Revelation, understanding – holds up a mirror to the complex and ambiguous society we are making
- Related to, but not the same as, social documentary photography

*Great St Mary's Passage,
Cambridge, 2016*

Portfolio of Masters



Andre Kertesz, Meudon, France, 1928

S BUTLER

TC | Published 2016



Walker Evans, *Damaged*, 1928-30



Tony Ray-Jones, *Beachy Head, Tripper Boat, 1967*



Joel Meyerowitz, New York City, 1975



Martin Parr, *New Brighton*, 1983-85



Trent Parke, Sydney, Australia, 1998



Daido Moriyama, *Shinjuku*, 2002



Melanie Einzig, *First Avenue, New York City, 2004*



Matt Stuart, Oxford Circus, London, 2011.



Harry Gruyaert, London 2012

How to...Technical



Technical

- Small camera
- Wide angle lens – 35mm
- High ISO – 400 plus
- Shutter 1/100 or less
- Small aperture – f8
- Speed - shoot from the hip?

Henri Cartier-Bresson

How to...Walk and find



Trinity Street, Cambridge, 2018

How to...Haunt busy places



Oxford Circus, London, 2012

How to... Look for juxtapositions



Trinity Street, Cambridge, 2018

How to ...Events



Parker's Piece, Cambridge, 2012

How to...confidence, patience, luck and serendipity



Senate House Hill, Cambridge, 2012

And...

- In the UK, it's generally legal to photograph people in public spaces like streets, parks and at events.
- However, avoid:
 - harassment;
 - children; and
 - photographing where people expect privacy.
- If you ask, people are often happy to be photographed.
- You may be challenged at places used publically but privately owned:
 - shopping centres/malls; and
 - railway stations and other security-sensitive locations.

Sources & Deadline

- *Street Photography Now*, Sophie Howarth, Stephen McLaren, Thames and Hudson, 2011
- *Bystander: A History of Street Photography*, Colin Westerbeck, Joel Meyerowitz, Laurence King Publishing, 2017
- jamesmaphotography.com/street_photography/what-is-street-photography/
- Photos to Tim by end of Sunday 25th January