Smartphone Street Photography



My background

Grant Lattanzi // Qualitative Researcher & Multimedia Artist

Georgetown University, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Communication, Culture, & Technology (CCT) program

Media Fest 2022



View Photos

Street Photography



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What is it: Documenting the social world through photography

"Street photography attempts to capture on film not just the visible components of a moment, but the invisible social reality as well. The nuances that characterize fleeting encounters that are oh-so-hard to describe in words. The energy and spirit of a moment have to somehow make it through the camera lens." (Grant Lattanzi).

How is it done? A popular way of thinking about it is what Henri Cartier-Bresson called, "the decisive moment."

"Photography is not like painting. There is a creative fraction of a second when you are taking a picture. Your eye must see a composition or an expression that life itself offers you, and you must know with intuition when to click the camera. That is the moment the photographer is creative. 'Oop! The Moment!' Once you miss it, it is gone forever"

-- Henri Cartier-Bresson, 1957

Street Photography



Coronation of King George VI, London, May 12, 1937 Henri Cartier-Bresson, Gelatin silver paint. 45.1 × 29.8 cm

Berlin Wall. Henri Cartier-Bresson, 1963. Gelatin silver paint. 58.9 × 90 cm





Dorothea Lange. (1933). White Angel Breadline, San Francisco [Gelatin Silver Paint].



Helen Levitt. (1988). New York.

"The aesthetic is reality itself." -Helen Levitt



Six Tenant Farmers without Farms, Hardeman County, Texas

Dorothea Lange, 1937. Gelatin silver paint. 32.9 × 42.2 cm



Roadside Stand Near Birmingham/Roadside Store Between Tuscaloosa and Greensboro, Alabama

Walker Evans, 1936



Subway Passengers, New York City

Walker Evans, 1938. Gelatin silver paint



Trafalgar Square on a Very Wet Night

Paul Martin, 1896. Gelatin silver paint. 15.2 × 20.6 cm



DARK CITY, 2020

Dina Litovsky. New York City 2020.

Meatpacking

Dina Litovsky NYC

Digital Ethnography



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Digital Ethnography

- My way to include the mediated dimensions of the social world in street photography.
- A sub-tradition of ethnographic research methods that does not establish fixed dichotomies between online and offline realms."(Ardévol and Gómez-Cruz, 2013, p. 11)
- Has the same concerns as more classic ethnographic research (Pink et al. cited in Gyor, 2017)
 - Experiences (what people feel)
 - Practices (what they do)
 - Things (literal objects around us)
 - Relationships (intimate social worlds)
 - Social worlds (Groups or other organizing configurations that inform how people relate to one another)
 - Localities (shared physical contexts like grocery stories)
 - Events

Δr

Ardévol, E., & Gómez-Cruz, E. (2013). Digital Ethnography and Media Practices. In A. N. Valdivia (Ed.), The International Encyclopedia of Media Studies (pp. 498–518). John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. https://doi.org/10.1002/9781444361506.wbiems193

Győr, A. F. (2017). Digital Ethnography: Principles and Practice - Sarah Pink, Heather Horst, John Postill, Larissa Hjorth, Tania Lewis, Jo Tacchi (2015, London, Sage Publications). Convinus, Journal of Sociology and Social Policy, 8(1). https://www.proguest.com/docview/2443614460/citation/2BE9B90AD8C4423APO/1

Street photography

- + Digital ethnography
- = Smartphone Street Photos



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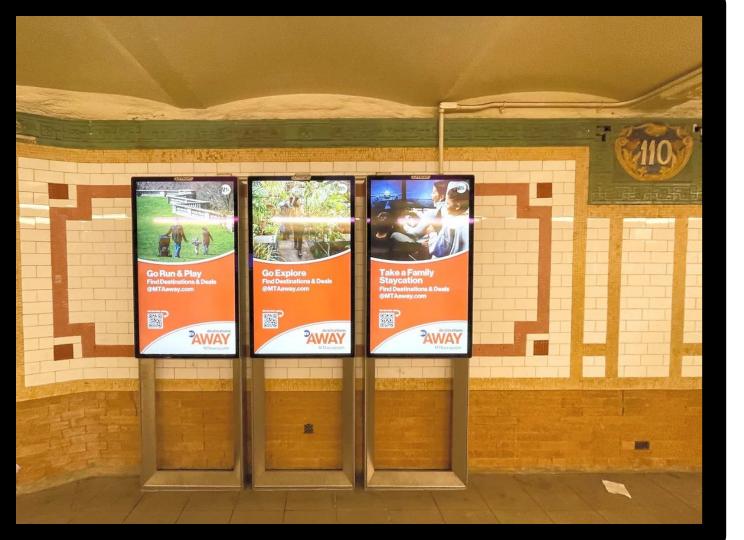
View Photos



Vaccine center in the Irma and Paul Milstein Family Hall of Ocean Life at the American Museum of Natural History. January, 2022.



Side view.



High-res screens bringing ads and government messaging

110th St. Subway Stop. New York, NY. 2022.



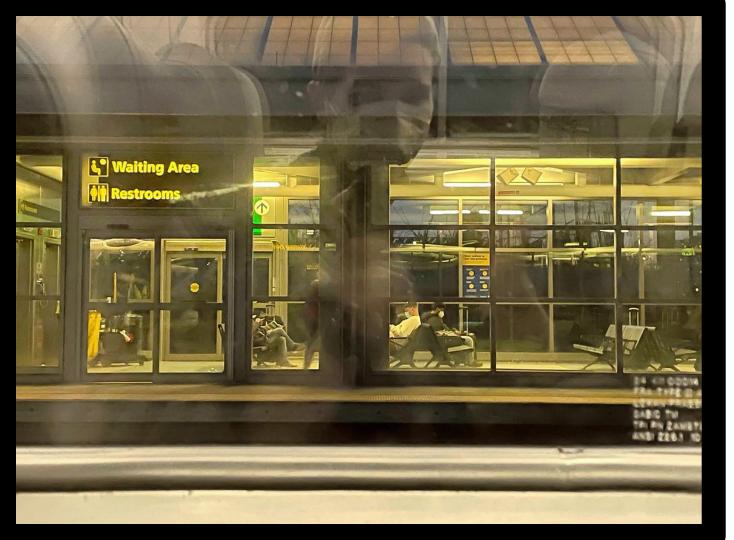
Sick on a sofa-bed with the Omicron variant.

Arlington, VA. December 2021.



Clear sky over electric vehicle charging stations (in mint packaging).

Georgetown, CO. 2021.



Smartphones in the Waiting Area.

Somewhere, Delaware. 2022.



Playful suburb.

Colorado Springs, CO. December 2021.

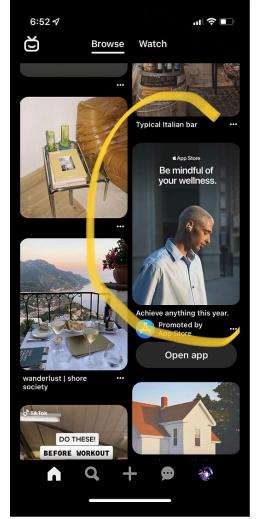


New media, old stop. New York, NY. 2021.



Fort Worth Zoo taking a symbolic stance on COVID-19 safety precautions.

Fort Worth, TX. 2020.







Triptych from media life. iPhone 12 (I think) Screenshots.



L-I-A-R.

Penn Station. New York, NY. April 2022.



<u>POSITIVELY</u>

NO BALL PLAYING ALLOWED.

Washington Heights, New York, NY. 2021.



Photo appointment attire.

Washington DC. March 2022.



A lifetime of love begins between a husband, a wife, and a photographer. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial. Washington DC. April 2022.



DAMN2020.

New York, NY. April 2022.



Get FREE flu et al. vaccines here.

Arlington, VA. 2021.



My guide to Manhattan.

December 2021.



But god damn it we will graduate.

Georgetown University Bookstore. May 2022.

Questions? Impressions? Feedback? Further study? Collab ideas? Incendiary comments?



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