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# David Lykes Keenan: Fair Witness: Street Photography For The 21st Century



## Synopsis

Fair Witness presents the humorous and sometimes unsettling street work of New York City-based photographer David Lykes Keenan, whose black-and-white photos, taken with a Leica rangefinder, recall Frank, Winogrand, Friedlander and particularly Erwit.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Mixed with the precision of the engineer that he is, and the timing of Cartier-Bresson, his heart and mind in every image will engage you. (The Editors [loeildelaphotographie.com](http://loeildelaphotographie.com))

NYC is a big place by D. Keenan still has the attentive eye to spot those things that pop from the ordinary, if the cover is of no indication. It's classic street photography right down to the printing of the images, they look from another time yet recent. The images themselves are usually humorously juxtaposed and makes one willing to be more attentive to the life in the streets. This book is a great addition to any library.

Great book, well thought out, beautiful reproduction, a must have for visually orientated people.

A good street photographer is like a good jazz musician: composing on the fly, while maintaining a keen awareness of the activity around him. David has mastered this difficult skill.

We have among us a new wave of street photographers whose names may never be as familiar as Cartier-Bresson, Atget and Doisneau, or Friedlander, Winogrand and Elliot Erwitt, but they should be. Peter Turnley in Paris, Keith Dannemiller in Mexico, and now David Lykes Keenan in the US belong in the Street Photographer's Hall of Fame, if there is one. Fame is often in large part hype, and we are living in an age when one of the first things to be truly democratized is hype. So, back to basics: this work speaks for itself, and as you flip through the pages, perhaps like me, you will find yourself speechless. David's unassuming personality belies all that is apparently going on inside of him. I was familiar with his abstracts and appreciation for materials and textures, but I had no idea he is in possession of superb clarity of social vision and an abiding sense of the absurd, humor and the ironic. And he is very, very smart. If he is Heinlein's stranger in a strange land, or Sack's anthropologist from Mars, he must have had a Suzuki there, who taught him beginner's mind. Mixed with the precision of the engineer that he is, and the timing of Cartier-Bresson, his heart and mind in every image will engage you. Buy this book. Support this photographer. You will not be sorry.

Possibly one of the worst books I have ever had the misfortune to see. A friend of mine was hoodwinked into buying this through an incessant social media campaign that bordered on spamming. He showed the book to me the other day, and it's full of simple derivative images. Really very average photography. I'd urge anyone to save their money and buy works of art that don't rely on self aggrandizing self promotion.

One of the great modern street photographers, David Lykes Keenan has a knack for finding quirky, unusual scenarios in the everyday humdrum backdrop of American cities. Like Garry Winogrand or Elliott Erwitt, Keenan's work has an indescribable visual humor and language all his own. I'm going to keep an eye on this interesting photographer and I advocate other lovers of fine art black and white photography do the same.

For those interested in street photography, this book is highly recommended. It's the kind of photo book I'll be going back to many times, browsing and admiring the photos and David's work.

I enjoyed this book very much! It features some great street photography. Every page was fresh with a unique perspective.

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