

Uneasy Streets

Giovanni Savino

Abstract

This is a small selection from the innumerable photographs that I have taken in the streets of New York in the past 20 years, while attempting to grasp subjects and their feelings.

You won't find any photos of tiny hamsters eating tiny burritos here.

This selection, from innumerable shots I have taken in the streets of New York for the past twenty years (1996-2016), is a social study, but also a mirror, reflecting both my opinions about what I see out there and fragments of the subjects' emotions, as I perceive them, while I walk across a city called home by over 8 million people and invaded by over 60 million tourists every year.

I realize that there are more questions than answers to be found in these frames: undoubtedly, I keep trying to photograph what is mostly concealed or usually not explored: the undisclosed feelings of people I don't know.

The results are not very encouraging: my camera just keeps aiming at an ever-increasing display of social disconnect and existential pain, amongst islands of carelessness, yet another reminder, perhaps, of what that song says about New York City: "If you can make it here, you can make it anywhere."

I am saddened, but not surprised, to report that many subjects of my photos appear not actually able to "make it" here, others, barely able to "make the best of it," while here.

Although fragments from this body of work have been occasionally featured in exhibitions, I was never able to elicit a desired socio-economic, political or philosophical discourse to be aptly illustrated by these photographs.



Fig. 1. Times Square, New York City. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 2. 59 Street Subway Station, New York City. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 3. Avenue of The Americas, New York City. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 4. Governors Island, New York City. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 5. Inwood, Dyckman Street, New York City. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 6. Lincoln Center, New York City. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 7. Times Square, New York City. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 8. 8th Avenue, New York City. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 9. *Harlem, New York City*. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.



Fig. 10. *Times Square, New York City*. Photo credit: Giovanni Savino.

About the author

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