



Street Photography: From Atget to Cartier-Bresson

By Clive Scott

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Street photography is perhaps the best-loved and most widely known of all photographic genres, with names like Cartier-Bresson, Brassai and Doisneau familiar even to those with a fleeting knowledge of the medium. Yet what exactly is street photography? From what viewpoint does it present its subjects, and how does this viewpoint differ from that of documentary photography? Looking closely at the work Atget, Kertesz, Bovis, Rene-Jacques, Brassai, Doisneau, Cartier-Bresson and more, this elegantly written book unpicks Parisian street photography's complex relationship with parallel literary trends -- from Baudelaire to Soupault -- as well as its more evident affinity with Impressionist art. *Street Photography* reveals the genre to be poetic, even "picturesque," looking not to the type but to the individual, not to the reality of the street but to its "romance."

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Clive Scott is Professor of European Literature, School of English and American Studies, University of East Anglia. His numerous books include *The Spoken Image: Photography and Language* (Reaktion Books, 1999).

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