

# ART PHOTOGRAPHY WALKING DOWN THE STREET

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ART PHOTOGRAPHY

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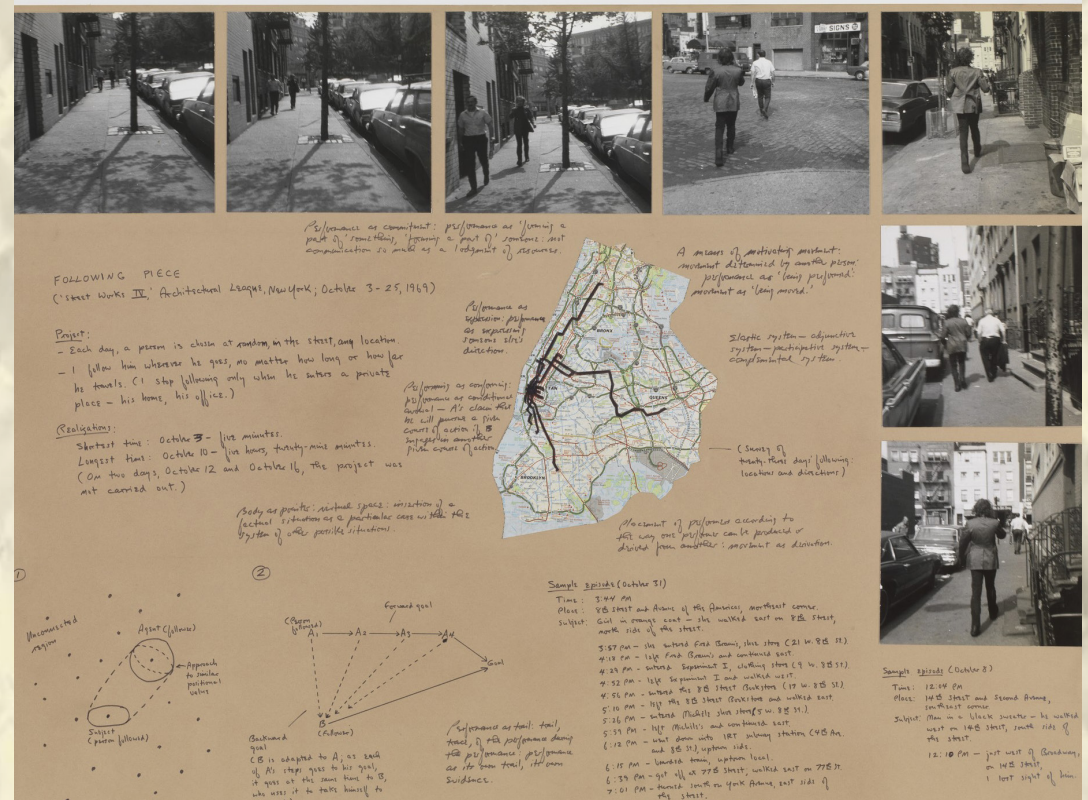


MY PROJECT CONSISTS ON A SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN TO UNKNOWN PEOPLE IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT.

I WANTED THE PHOTOGRAPHS TO LOOK NATURAL. I DID NOT WANT TO INTERFERE WITH THEIR ACTIONS EVEN THOUGH IN SOME OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS THEY NOTICED THAT THEY WERE BEING PHOTOGRAPHED.

## VITO ACCONCI'S "FOLLOWING PIECE"

MY PROJECT WILL BE VERY SIMILAR TO VITO  
ACCONCI'S WORK BECAUSE I WILL BECOME A  
SPY, VERY SIMILAR TO DOCUMENTAL PHOTOGRA-  
PHERS, I NEED TO BE INVISIBLE, BUT NOT IRRE-  
LEVANT OR TOTALLY OUT OF SCENE.





SOPHIE CALLE'S "FILATURES PARISIENNES".

I'LL JUST GUESS WHO THESE PEOPLE MIGHT BE, BUT I CAN NOT KNOW FOR SURE WHETHER OR NOT I AM CORRECT ABOUT THEM.



(ONE OF THE FIRST PAGES, FILATURES PARISIENNES, 1978-1979.)

I'M LOOKING FOR SOMETHING NATURAL AS IF IT WERE A DOCUMENTARY. I TAKE INSPIRATION OF CHARLIE HAMILTON JAMES WHO IS A PHOTOGRAPHER FOR NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC.

"FRUIT MARKET"

SELLERS AND BUYERS  
AT THE FRUIT MARKET.  
KIGALI, RWANDA







**PROTAGONIST:** There are three groups of people. A woman that is leaving the scene, a couple further away and a man with sunglasses and big earphones.

**WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION:** They are not wearing a mask but none of them are recognizable.

**SCENE:** I like the composition because the woman on the right is almost out of the scene while the man has just arrived, and the people on the back and the buildings are creating some balance and depth.





PROTAGONIST: The man with sunglasses and big earphones.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: He took something out of his pocket but I couldn't see what it was. The mask hooked on his arm so it couldn't be that. I think it could be a cigarette box because that would explain why he was not wearing his mask properly.

SCENE: The man is very close and is almost leaving the scene. There are two dominant colors, blue and black.



PROTAGONIST: A young boy.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: Where I come from, we only use that type of climbing sticks when we go hiking in the mountains, and it is not even used by young people, so seeing this boy in his twenties, using them in town, surprised me.

SCENE: He is almost in the center of the picture. There are some lines that follow the guy's movement.





PROTAGONIST: A man with a leather bag.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: He was in a bus stop but closer to the road than to the waiting seats. He was looking with his head down, as if waiting for someone to speak to him. He seemed like a nice person but his attitude was strange. Was he a bus driver waiting to change his shift?

SCENE: He is very close but he has no idea that he has been photographed. The shadows and the building guide the eye to the man's head. As he is wearing a black coat the backpack is invisible on the first sight.







PROTAGONIST: A very calm man.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: This man seemed like a good target because he walked very calmly, slowly, with his hands in his pockets and his eyes down-cast.

SCENE: I like that he is so close to me but he does not look at me, he does not realize that I am observing him. I do not exist for him. Would he be surprised if he saw this photo? Probably. Not even the people in the background seem to realize what is happening.



PROTAGONIST: A man with bags.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: He carried many bags and he was constantly fighting to place them in a more comfortable way. He was in the bike parking area, although I doubt he would rent any. I don't think riding a bike like that is easy.

SCENE: I like that many elements appear accumulated in the same place, creating very different forms, I think it fits well in the context of this man's useless attempt to create order.

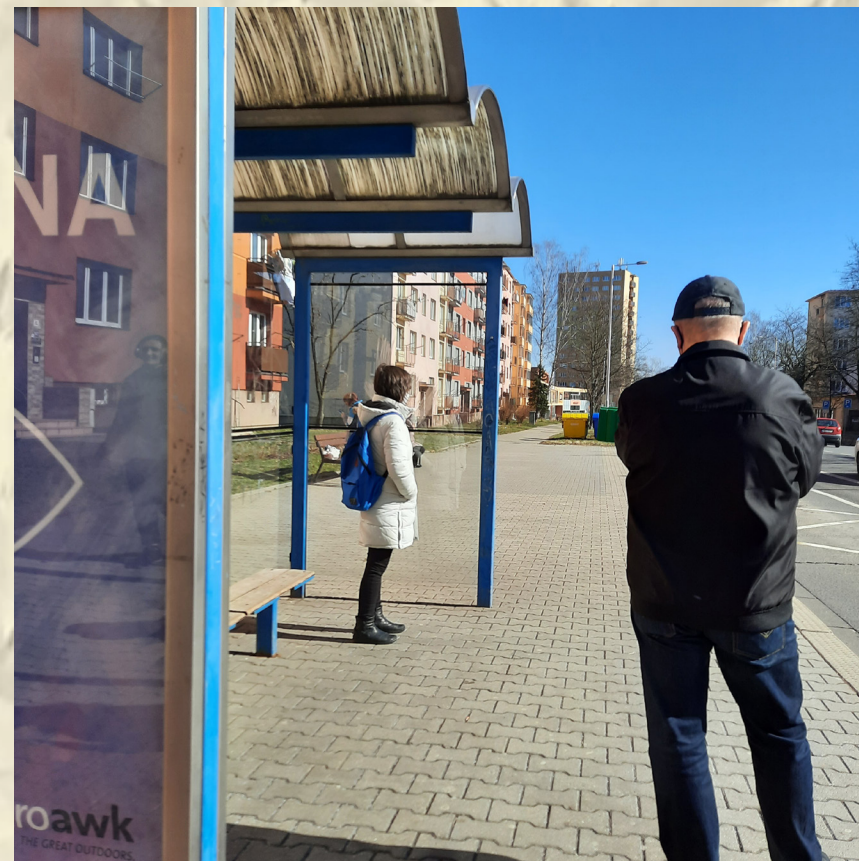




PROTAGONIST: A man alone in a bus stop.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I found this man very straight, alone, staring at the road waiting for his transport.

SCENE: I wanted to create some kind of contrast between the advertising poster of the stop and this man.



PROTAGONIST: A man that is not alone anymore and a woman.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I moved a little to take a better picture of the man and I was surprised that he was not alone. These two probably didn't even know each other but I hadn't realized that this woman was there.

SCENE: I wanted to capture the purple poster with reflections of the surrounding buildings, the man and the woman looking at the horizon. She is almost in the center of the image to make her more important because I totally erased her in the other picture.





PROTAGONIST: A girl with a funny bag.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I had seen this girl in the distance and I liked her bag.

SCENE: All the colours in this photo are related somehow. Her purse was the same color as the building behind her. She also wore white earphones like the windows and dressed in dark greenish colors like the grass behind her.

A boy who was with his group of friends noticed that I was taking photos and looked at me so I captured him too. I'm pretty sure I'm in this photo. I'm like a shadow in the lower left. I cannot be sure, but seeing the position and the shape of the shadow I would say that's me.





PROTAGONIST: A woman walking very fast.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: She passed me very fast on a crosswalk so I turned to follow her. At first she made me laugh.

SCENE: I took several photos but I liked this one because you can see how she has her legs wide apart. We were next to a supermarket so there were several people waiting to enter because there was a limit of people who could be inside.

The lady who appears in black was also walking in a hurry, it also caught my attention but they took different paths and I preferred to continue following the one in white who I lost after she entered a residential area.



PROTAGONIST: Old man and his dog.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I think he was the only person I saw walking his pet. His dog was anxious and insisted on going to the garden area to play. I thought it was a very tender image.

SCENE: I took more pictures but I liked this one because it looks like the puppy looks back constantly to make sure that his owner follows him. The position of the man's feet initiating a step gives movement to the image. I also liked the angle of the buildings creating a path.







PROTAGONIST: Guy throwing out garbage.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: He must live nearby because he didn't bother putting on the mask. I decided to photograph him because he is probably the only one whose intentions are clear to me. I can see what he went out for, what he was doing and where he was going to go next.

SCENE: I think that when the horizon is rotated, the gaze is guided towards the point of interest.





PROTAGONIST: Old couple.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: The woman saw me taking photos and looked at me, then she whispered something to the man and while she was hiding looking away the man crossed glances with me.

SCENE: I like that they look at the camera but are unrecognizable because of the hat, the sunglasses and the mask.



PROTAGONIST: Old lady.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION:  
She saw me taking pictures.

SCENE: The photograph of her  
alone is even comical to me.  
Watching from the corner with  
the mask and the sunglasses.  
The the horizon is rotated which  
also helps create that feeling of  
imbalance that guides the gaze  
towards the point of interest.







PROTAGONIST: Guy making a phone call.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: This guy surprised me because he took off his mask to take a phone call.

SCENE: I like that we can guess what he is doing. I can imagine that he went out to run some errands, send a letter or something similar and buy bread for breakfast. His mother, roommates or partner start calling him to ask him to buy something else when he is returning from the store, so he is angry because he was already coming home.



PROTAGONIST: Two men with their take away breakfast.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I think the one on the left did realize that I was taking the photos because he told his friend something and he looked up and stared at me until I passed by.

SCENE: One of them is already sipping coffee while he is walking as he has removed his mask. At the same time he is texting with someone. Each one has coffee and a box with breakfast, perhaps a cake or toast, impossible to know.





PROTAGONIST: Woman carrying a coffee.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: This woman noticed that I was in a strange attitude although I doubt she realized I was taking photos. she just looked at me and instantly forgot that I existed. I wonder how many people have crossed



my path and completely forgotten me ...

SCENE: In one of the photos she is looking at my camera but in the other one she is acting normal. She does not suspect anything.



PROTAGONIST: Old man with a shopping cart.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: This man and I met at the crossroads and walked together for almost a minute.

SCENE: This is one of my favorite pictures. I think the shot is almost perfect. The man is almost in the center of the image, between the tram tracks that create a great depth to the image.







PROTAGONIST: A very similar old man.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: He was very similar to the man of the last photo. they almost seem to be the same person. However, the images were taken on the same day and we can see that they are not wearing exactly the same clothes.

SCENE: They wear very similar caps but different jackets. The first man wears green pants with a line and the second man wears jeans. The first man wears shoes that are much lighter. The second man walked carefree among the people.





PROTAGONIST: Woman and man in a bus stop.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: Bus stops are one of the best places to take these types of photos because people are still and they will not be surprised if you get a little closer or if you are standing in the same area.

SCENE: They are waiting, looking around to distract themselves. The woman looked at me several times while I was waiting.



PROTAGONIST: Group of random people.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION:

Since taking photos from the bus stop was interesting, I thought that I could also take good photos from the inside.

SCENE: People were distracted, not projecting anything interesting. I couldn't even catch melancholy or boredom in their looks. All wearing a mask, respecting the distance.

I like the shining of the metal posts that also helps to create depth.



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PROTAGONIST: Group of people

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION:  
It was a rainy day. I was walking through a garden area when I saw these people. I thought about how easy it would be to spy on someone from my position.

SCENE: None of them were looking at me and I had trees to hide in case they turned. I wanted to take this photo as if I were a spy.



PROTAGONIST: Man and woman taking a bus.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: After spending some time in that area, I saw the bus approaching and I got out quickly to capture the passengers getting into the vehicle.

SCENE: I think that the colors were perfect, the man is dressed in red and black and the girl in the back also uses the same colours but reversed (red scarf-black scarf, black jacket-red jacket). There are also two white buses like their masks. The building in the background is the color of the skin of these people. I was also discovered by the girl on the right who looks at the camera, surprised.







PROTAGONIST: Someone walking alone in the rain.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I think it shows pretty well the situation of walking fast in the rain using buildings to avoid getting so wet while coming back home.

SCENE: I highlight the angle of perspective created by the path, the building and the garden area. I think the position of the walker is almost perfect, it coincides with the corner of the lawn and is between two windows.





PROTAGONIST: Person with an umbrella.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION:  
It is very solemn. The person is dressed in gray on a grey day with a transparent umbrella that blends into the surroundings. He waits patiently for the traffic light to allow him to cross.

SCENE: I like the protagonism that the ground has. The angle of the green area guides to the point of interest. The person seems like he does not want to be seen.





PROTAGONIST: Group faceless.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION:  
I wanted to use the idea of the public transport so I stayed in the rain for a few minutes while several trams arrived and left.

SCENE: From this first photo I like how anonymous they all are, there is not a single face. I wanted to create speed and spontaneity so I rotated the camera a little bit. There is contrast between people who must hurry to get in and those who still have to wait for their transport. The lady in black rushes in, the woman in pink is a little clumsier with her baby carriage while two young men who are still, waiting, looking at her, wondering if they should help her or not.



PROTAGONIST: Two old women.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION:  
I wanted to follow the woman in pink so I walked to get a little closer and I was surprised by this lady who was walking with her staff.

SCENE: It seems like she stared at me. She was in a hurry but she didn't catch that tram. She was probably in a hurry to see the information panel and find out how much time was left for her tram to get there. This photo is very blurry because it was taken while walking on a rainy day so the camera took a long time to focus.







PROTAGONIST: Group of people walking in the rain.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I did not want to miss the opportunity to take more photos of people in the rain but I wanted to take refuge in a building so I was leaving the tram stop to go somewhere.

SCENE: There are many lines and depth. They are walking very organize so it's very balanced.



PROTAGONIST: Old lady and a young man.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I kept following the group.

SCENE: I think that the size difference is too much, as if it had been edited to make the man abnormally large or the lady abnormally small. I like that there is a great difference attitude. The lady seems to have finished her errands and walks carelessly back home while she lights a cigarette but the young man walks faster, with his hands in his pockets because he is cold and his gaze is fixed on the front, wanting to reach his destination.



We also see in the background a character from a previous photo. There is also a fourth person hidden, of which we can only see a piece behind the young man on the right.





PROTAGONIST: Group of three.

WHAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION: I waited near a building for people who wanted to take shelter from the rain.

SCENE: I like the angle that the wall creates. I'm also interested in that a line that has been created between the three characters who probably don't even know each other but who have coincided at that moment and are now engraved forever, totally unrecognizable because of the face masks, coats and a lack of camera focus.

Maybe on another sunnier day the image would be better but if I went back another day I would not find these same people again.





I wanted to get closer to take a better photo but the man on the left was too fast and the boy on the right moved even further. I was only able to capture the one on the middle, which we can better identify as a young woman looking at traffic while walking in the direction of a supermarket.

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ART PHOTOGRAPHY  
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