

Let the street be your studio

Street Photography is a very popular and rewarding genre. It's available to everyone, does not need sophisticated equipment and can be done in any weather, any time of day. The photographic opportunities are immense, with no end of possibilities. All that is needed is a simple camera, good preparation and maintaining a watchful eye for images.

Ideally, use a small camera; a big 'professional' camera will make you very obvious, when often you need to just go unnoticed. Pre-set the camera beforehand as, much of the time, you will need to react quickly to something you see. It's usually best to use manual exposure with a middle aperture (say f8) to give reasonable depth of focus, shutter speed fairly fast, such as 1/250 second, and then leave the ISO set on 'Auto'. Now you can just point and shoot with a good likelihood of acceptable quality. A wide angle zoom lens will give you most coverage.

Remember you don't always have to have the camera up to your eye. If your camera has a flip-out monitor, you can use this, keeping the camera at waist level. Even without this, with some practice you'll find you can 'shoot from the hip' quite successfully and anonymously. Rest assured also that there are no laws against taking photos in public areas.

This street entertainer was encountered while walking through a high street, with just enough time to catch a couple of images.

If you would like more guidance



or advice on this or anything else photographic, then please contact Overton Photographic Club and we will be pleased to assist. Even better, consider joining the club and you will then be amongst friendly people who will give you as much guidance and help as you need to really get the most from your camera and processing

software. The club meets every Friday, September until May at the ORC's Bridge Street Pavilion from 7.30pm. You are welcome to come along anytime as a visitor, and you will be made very welcome... our full programme is shown on the website www.overtophoto.club

John Hodge