



Buddhist monk praying at Boudha Stupa, Kathmandu, Nepal

# Karma

be yourself and all that you can be

Portrait or street photography requires a certain attitude and karmic approach.

If you're an impatient person, or someone who is too closed to what is around you, then you are going to have a hard time making good images of people.

If you are greedy or inconsiderate, then it's going to be even harder.

We can't change who we are and in many ways, doing street photography allows us to get a better idea of just who we are. Like a relationship with your close ones, we learn through exchange who we are and how we interpret the world.

Being a street photographer requires us to be at peace with ourselves and everything that is presented to us. There is no room for prejudice or preconceived ideas. These limit our potential for the unborn images that sit waiting out there for us to 'see'.

Each time I step outside to make images of people, the first thing that comes to mind is respect. Respect your subjects wishes. Always.

In this book, there are plenty of essays on this subject. You may feel that you want to skip them and get to the technical section to find out what sort of lens you need, or what kind of camera is best for street photography.

For those with the right patience and capacity for street photography, they will read what I have to say in the 'Karma & Approach' section of this book because good street photography happens because of how we, as photographers interact with our surroundings and our subjects.

It's really important.

Of course, the technical stuff is important too but there is a reason why I have the 'Karma & Approach' section first, because without good approach or good manners, the right camera and lens will be more or less useless.

I'm very much a 'thinking' person. I've always been very aware of peoples feelings and emotions. Emotional intelligence is a vital part of making pictures of people. I hope that what I have written will give you some insight to this and much more.

Street photography really is quite simple. It just gets as complicated as we decide to make it.