

SCAVENGE

PHOTOGRAPHY



AUGUST 2017

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NEW YORK CITY



SCAVENGE

A PHOTOGRAPHY SCAVENGER HUNT

I am a creative, a reader, a photographer, a movie junkie, and a lover of music. Thanks to Bob Dylan, Ghostbusters, J.D. Salinger, Paul Simon, and Desperately Seeking Susan a love for New York City was imprinted on my heart even before my first visit. I never make plans when I visit because there is a magic in walking, being embraced in the beautifully diverse shifts between neighborhoods and not being fully prepared for what you'll see next: Gothic churches and art deco skyscrapers, a thousands new foods to try, interesting stores, and just the most random, artistic and weird shit ever.

On a previous trip a few years ago, I was just getting interested in photography again, so I recruited some of my friends to help me create a photography scavenger hunt. They were crazy, creative, and fun with it and created a list of 53 things for me to photograph. Unfortunately, I got sick on the trip and didn't get a chance to take many photographs.

So, on my recent trip, I resurrected the list, editing it to 20 items. I tried to be creative, took liberties with a few themes, and forgot about some others, but it was a fun project. It helped me to see new things and get a little more creative. This is the result.





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A PHOTOGRAPHY SCAVENGER HUNT

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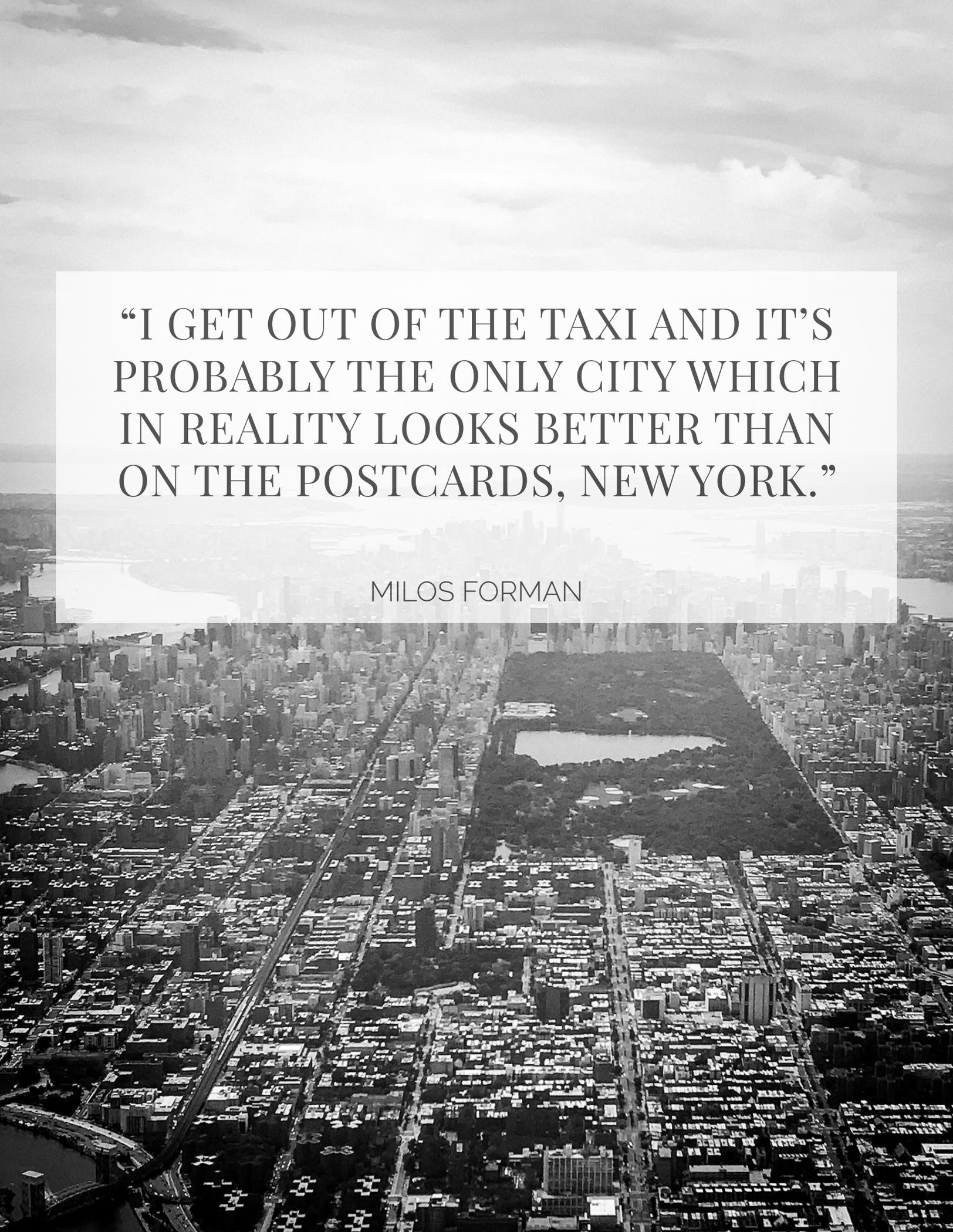
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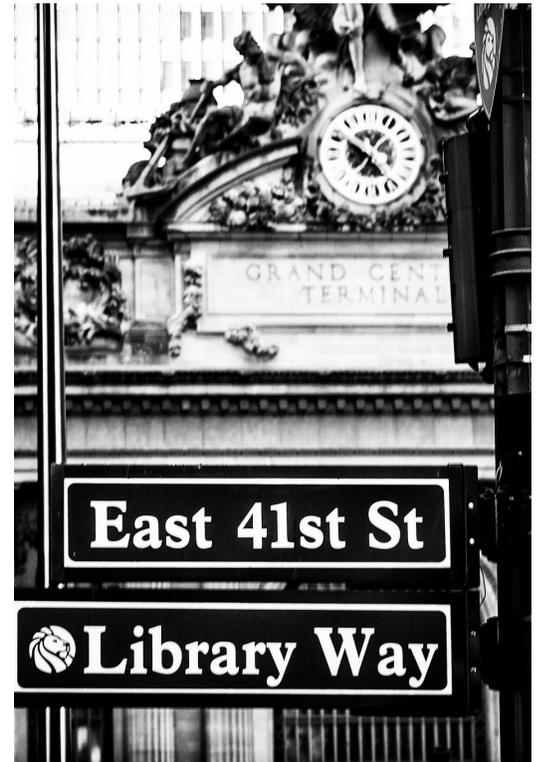
An aerial, black and white photograph of New York City. The image shows a dense urban grid with numerous skyscrapers. In the center, Central Park is visible as a large, dark, rectangular area with a lake in the middle. The background shows the city extending to the horizon under a cloudy sky. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the upper portion of the image, containing a quote and the name of the person who said it.

“I GET OUT OF THE TAXI AND IT’S
PROBABLY THE ONLY CITY WHICH
IN REALITY LOOKS BETTER THAN
ON THE POSTCARDS, NEW YORK.”

MILOS FORMAN

WHERE AM I?

SHOW ME WHERE YOU ARE



I love signs and print, so this one wasn't much of a challenge for me. I'm always excited to be on Bleecker St because I think of Paul Simon. Washington Square Park is magical, I love the museums, and Grand Central is the most beautiful place I've ever been.

One friend asked me to take a photo of a manhole cover, which I thought was an odd request. He was right; they're beautiful. The one to the left is from Central Park.

I have no idea what Go Nowhere in Manhattan is, but it seemed to fit my trip strategy, so I had to capture it.

INSPIRE ME

SHOW ME SOMETHING INSPIRING



I love art, but I especially love visiting museums. There is a sort of emotional intensity and energy in seeing someone's life's work being remembered and appreciated.

On previous trips, I visited MoMA (Starry Night, Lichtenstein, and Warhol) and The National History Museum (Catcher in the Rye fan must see), but I hadn't made it to The Metropolitan Museum of Art yet and wasn't I'd like it. That was crazy. The museum is in such a perfect spot in Central Park, and the scale and magnitude of art work that I saw in a few hours was amazing. I could have spent a few weeks wandering the galleries.

The top photo is artists sketching Roman statues; It was some of the best people watching, and I loved how bossy and demanding the statues seemed. The photo to the right is from one of the Edgar Degas rooms and features some of his work with ballet dancers.



ONCE UPON A TIME

A PLACE WRITTEN ABOUT



“I LIKE IT WHEN SOME-
BODY GETS EXCITED
ABOUT SOMETHING.
IT’S NICE.”

J.D. SALINGER/ THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

Catcher in the Rye is one of favorite books, so when I walked up to The Pond in Central Park and a man was feeding the ducks, I was overjoyed. Someone tell Holden that I found the ducks.

BE OUR GUEST

TAKE ME SOMEWHERE INVITING



I always stay at the Library Hotel in Midtown. It's a beautiful, book-themed boutique hotel with rooms based on the Dewey Decimal system. Their rooftop bar area is amazing. This stay, I got the Dramatic Literature room. Seems about right.

COME UP & MAKE ME SMILE

MAKE ME LAUGH



This one is a little silly. The first time I went into the New York Public Library I fell in love with their old public telephone booths (above). They're beautiful, weathered, and so full of history. I was watching a lot of *Mad Men* at the time, and I think it endeared it to me all the more. I'm so glad they've kept these around.

So, during this trip, when I stumbled upon phone booths in Times Square (right) and in lower Manhattan, I was really amused and had to take photos. I saw one woman in the phone booth talking on her cell phone. Does anyone still use these phones? And the Coin Release button was broken; are people still pounding them hoping for random change?



A black and white photograph of the New York Public Library building. The image shows the grand facade with classical columns and arches. In the foreground, a large stone lion statue is visible, looking towards the right. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white rectangular area in the center of the image.

“IF YOU HAVE A GARDEN AND A
LIBRARY, YOU HAVE EVERYTHING
YOU NEED.

MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO

UGLY & BEAUTIFUL

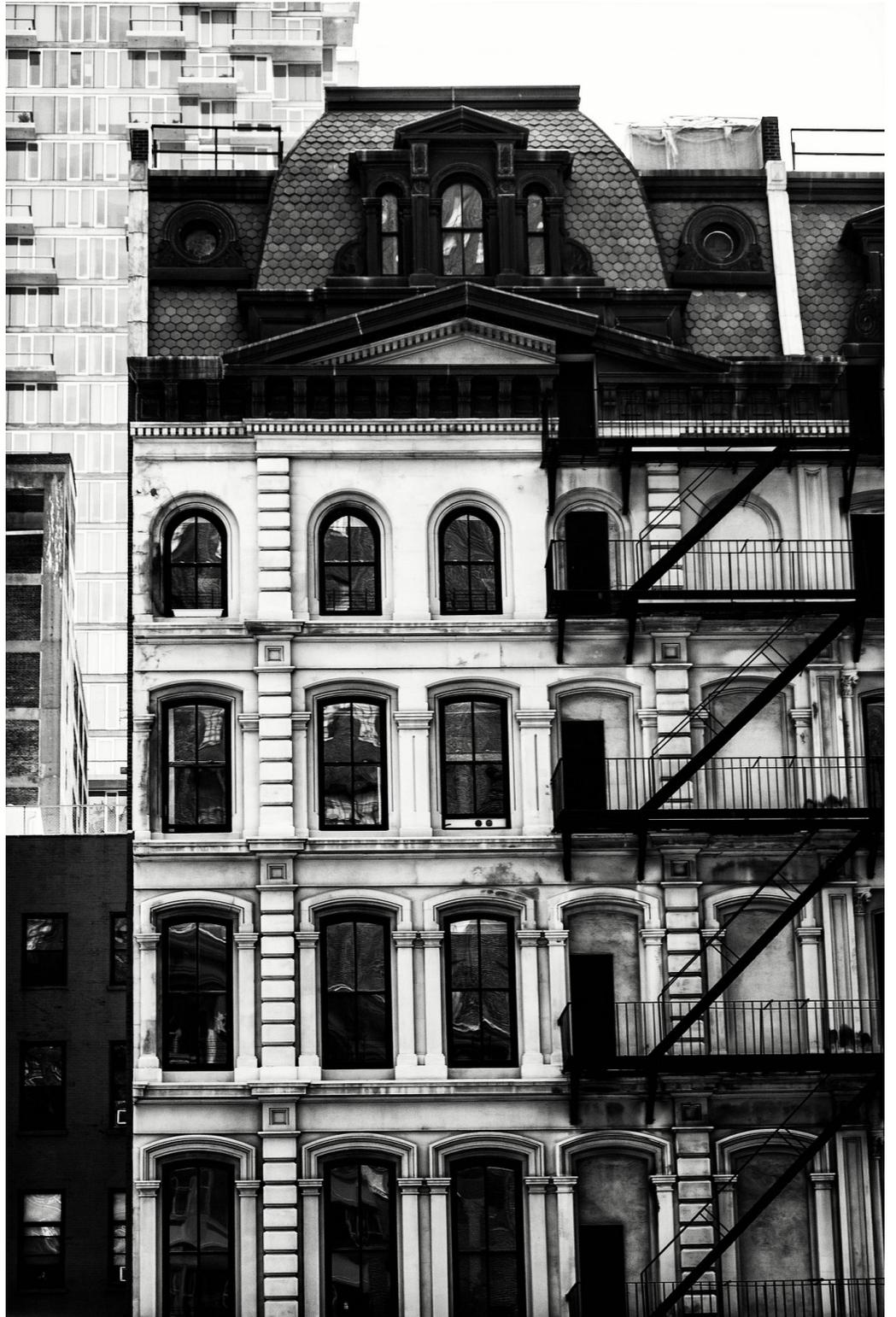
SHOW ME SOMETHING BOTH UGLY AND BEAUTIFUL

I love old architecture. In my darkroom days, I did studies of windows and doors because I've always found them so interesting.

I especially want everything about this building in my life. It is beautiful, ornate, and regal. It makes my heart swell. If I could have a castle, I'd pick this building and spend everyday painting from that huge window in the top floor. This is my thing of beauty.

The ugly thing, one of my peeves with the world, is the ugly, glass-heavy reflective thing behind it. When did buildings become so narcissistic and reflective?

Give me the gargoyles, fire escapes, ornate windows, and ridiculous details any day.



EAT ME



This one is sort of a joke in itself. I was so excited to eat my way through New York City, and then I got so focused on taking photos and walking places that I forgot to eat for most of the trip.

I didn't actually eat at Eataly, but the windows caught my eye and made me laugh. I especially loved "Kiss French. Eat Italian."

I did eat at Grand Central (below) and just loved how pretty everything looked in the case. It reminded me of that bizarre children's book where the witch turns the kids into cookies and seals them in the case. Sounds kind of like a nightmare aside from the whole being surrounded by cookies part.



READY FOR MY CLOSE-UP

SHOW ME A MOVIE LOCATION



There are so many fantastic movies that feature New York City (Ghostbusters, Ghostbusters, and Ghostbusters!), but I picked something less known - a movie called I'm With Lucy.

The movie features a couple of really beautiful areas in Central Park - the Conservatory Water / Model Boat Sailing (above) and the Alice in Wonderland statue (right). I was lucky enough to go just after a storm, so both were empty, allowing for some still, quiet photographs. I especially love how Alice looks like she's reigning queen over Central Park.

Down that rabbit hole, we go, my friend.



ART?

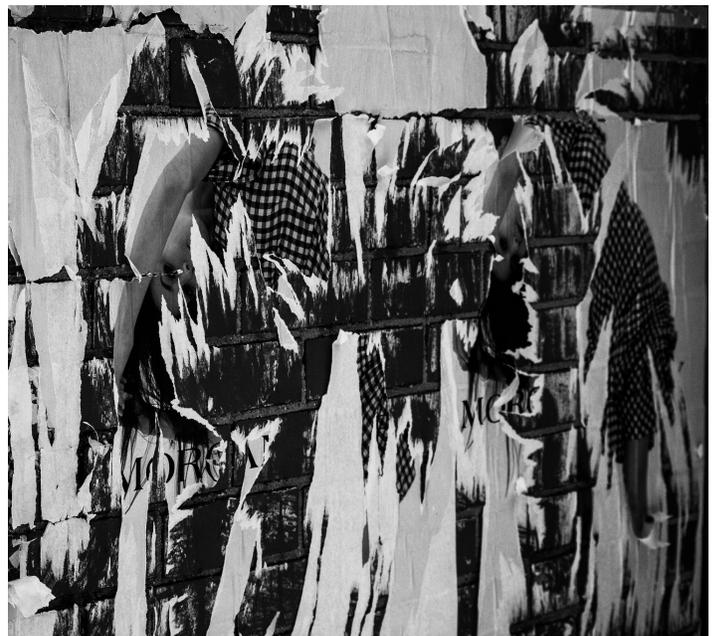
IS THIS ART?



I think the goal with this one was to find something that was art that you questioned. I sort of did the opposite and found random things that I wonder if they should be art.

Morrissey (top) was painted on a building in lower Manhattan. I want to believe that it is a tribute to Moz. I want to believe that there is some very devoted Smiths fan hiding out, listening to *The World Won't Listen* and leaving through some Oscar Wilde.

The other was a brick wall in Greenwich Village (right) where a bunch of posters had been torn down. It looked like some sort of protest.



BUY ME

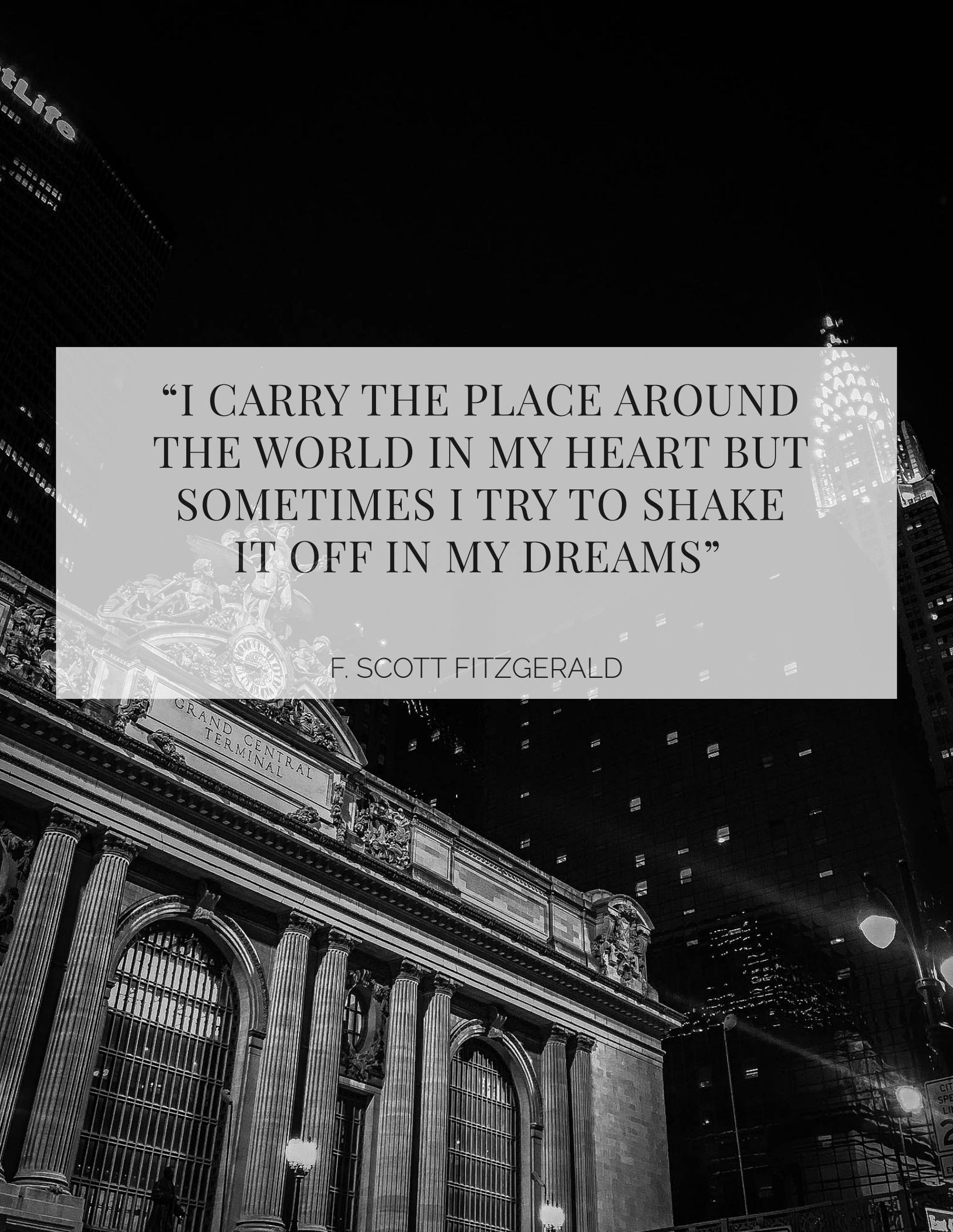
BEST ADVERTISEMENT / STORE WINDOW

I actually did not shop much and did not go into too many stores. However, I always love when something interesting catches my eye.

In the early morning, I noticed this Bergdorf Goodman window on my way to central park. The clock was working and the numbers were made out of sewing machines. The window design definitely made the clothes look a lot more interesting than they normally would have been.

On Friday afternoon, when I was exhausted, hot, and starving, I noticed Evolution across the street from where I was walking. I was so tired, but I really regret being too lazy to walk over there to look around. I love that weirdo stuff.



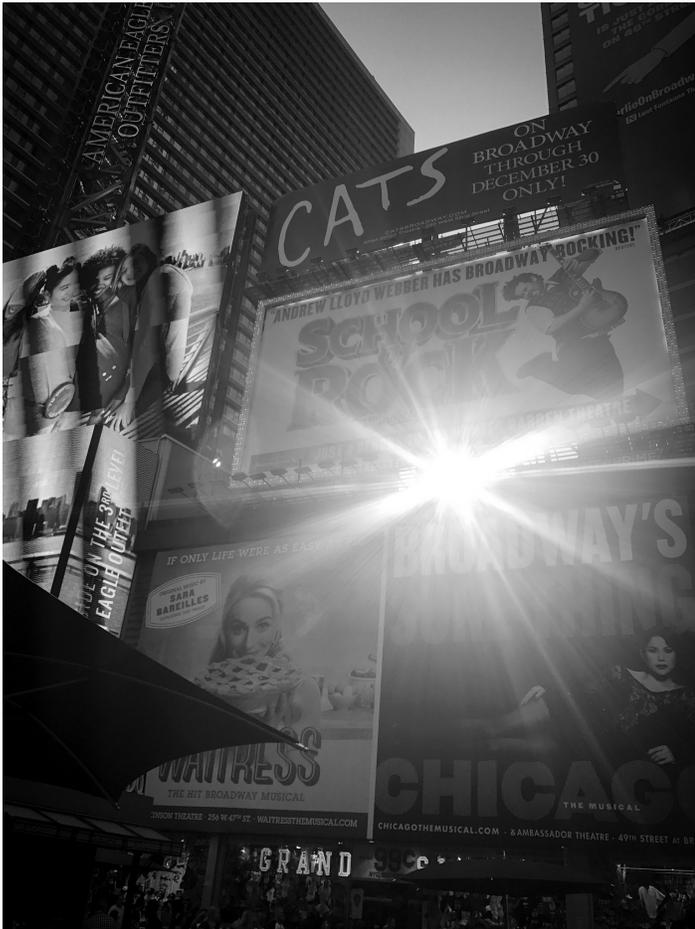
A black and white photograph of Grand Central Terminal at night. The building's classical architecture, featuring large columns and arched windows, is illuminated. In the background, modern skyscrapers are lit up against a dark sky. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing a quote in a serif font. The quote reads: "I CARRY THE PLACE AROUND THE WORLD IN MY HEART BUT SOMETIMES I TRY TO SHAKE IT OFF IN MY DREAMS". Below the quote, the name "F. SCOTT FITZGERALD" is written in a smaller, all-caps serif font. The overall mood is nostalgic and evocative.

“I CARRY THE PLACE AROUND
THE WORLD IN MY HEART BUT
SOMETIMES I TRY TO SHAKE
IT OFF IN MY DREAMS”

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

OBVIOUS TOURIST

THE MOST OBVIOUS TOURIST



I was supposed to look for a super obvious tourist, but it turns out, it was me.

After spending the morning at The Met, I met a friend for lunch, and when he saw me, he laughed at me with all of my camera equipment and my backpack stuffed with postcards, books, and gifts.

I visited some of the most Touristy places: Times Square, World Trade Center, and Empire State Building. Sometimes, you just have to lean into it.

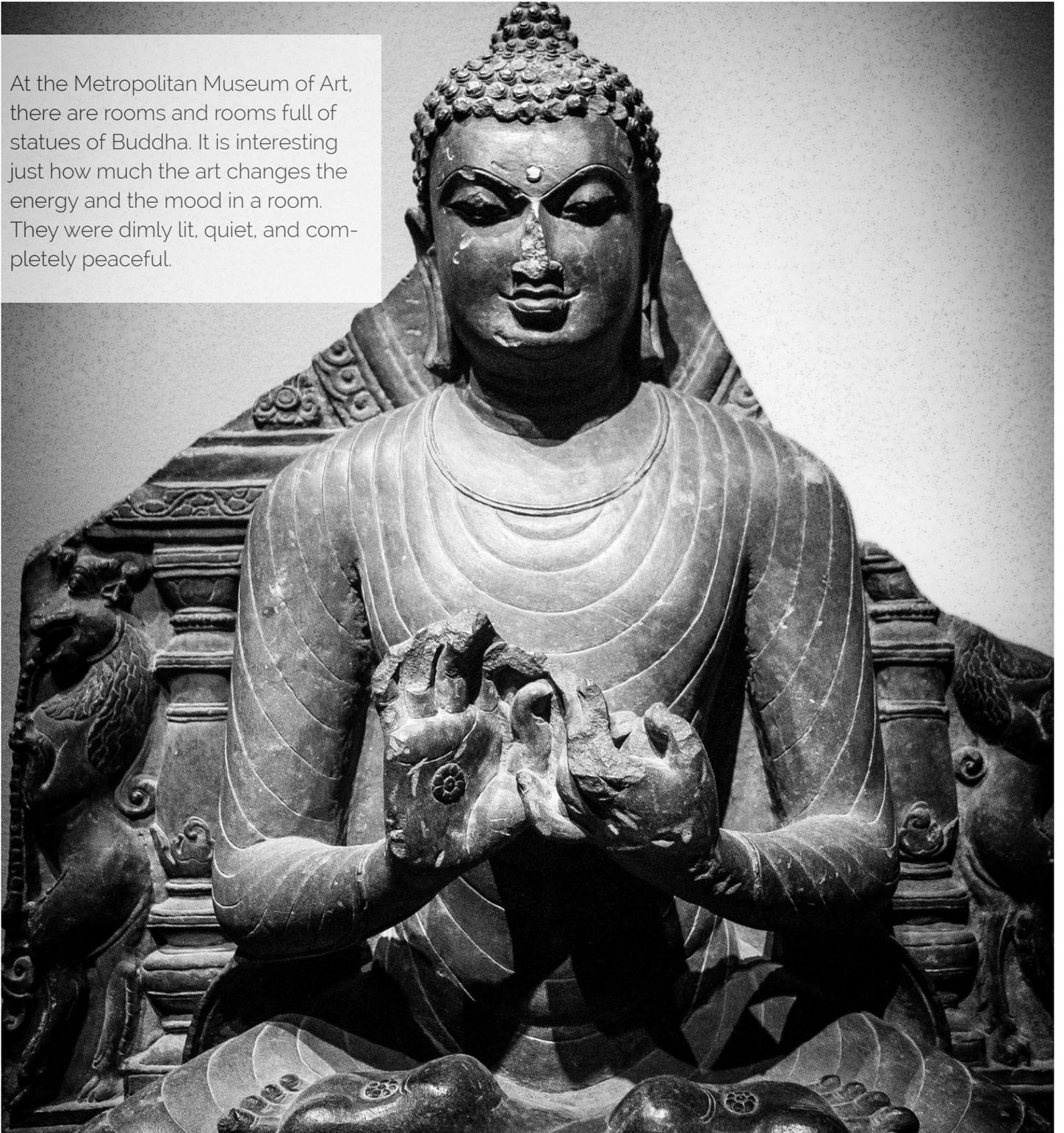
The weird photo of me is from when I was trying to take a photo of something else. That's pretty much my intense work face too.



HEAVENLY

SHOW ME SOMETHING HEAVENLY

At the Metropolitan Museum of Art, there are rooms and rooms full of statues of Buddha. It is interesting just how much the art changes the energy and the mood in a room. They were dimly lit, quiet, and completely peaceful.



DEADLY SINS

SHOW ME SOMETHING SINFUL



I am sure that I could have picked out a multitude of images of the seven deadly sins, but it just is not the type of things that I like to look for. I prefer to find the natural beauty and harmony in the world.

However, whenever I walk into Time Square, there is always so much going on. It is such an overwhelming place. Every store, billboard, and performer seems to be screaming at you to pay attention to them.

I never stay there very long because there are too many people crammed together, staring at the sky or asking for something. It is a weird energy for me. I did love this billboard for Wicked and the Hershey's stacks to the side.

So, this is my one cheat. I'm sure there are multiple sins in there somewhere.

CONTRADICTION

FIND A CONTRADICTION

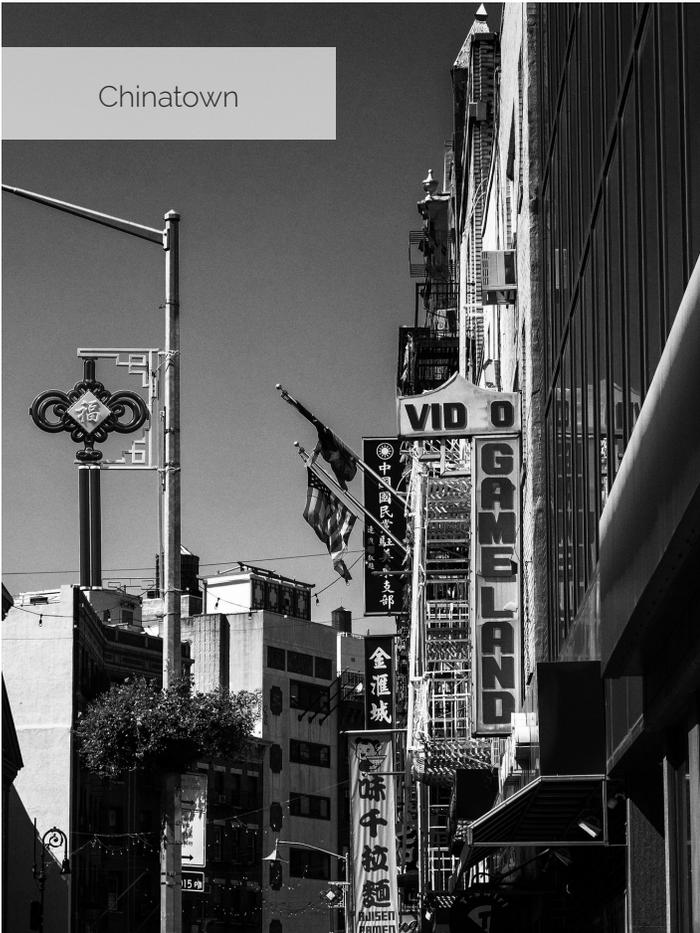


I spent a beautiful summer afternoon in Washington Square Park. It was an incredibly hot, sunny day and everyone was sitting along the edge of the fountain. The water jets along the edge of fountain provided a bit of a spray, which was relaxing and cooling. Parents allowed their kids to run around in the fountain pool. It was fun watching the joy on their faces as they splashed around in the water. It felt like the park's purpose. Isn't that the purpose of any park? Play and fun and happiness? So, when I spotted this sign, I had to laugh about how no one was paying attention to it, and my rebel heart loved them for it.



MELDING CULTURES

TWO CULTURES COMBINED





“ARCHITECTURE IS
INHABITED SCULPTURE.”

CONSTANTIN BRANCUSI

WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE
SHALL BE THE
STABILITY OF THY TIMES

DRESSED

BEST / WORST / MOST INTERESTINGLY DRESSED



I think that the intent was to find interesting fashion in the city. To be honest, I was too focused on where I was going and what I wanted to see to stop and people watch much.

However, at The Met, I was completely taken back when I saw these body masks. They were so strange. Actually, they were pretty damn horrifying. Apparently, they're used for some sort of festivals to greet the dead. Sounds about right.

TYPICAL & ATYPICAL

MOST AND LEAST NEW YORK CITY



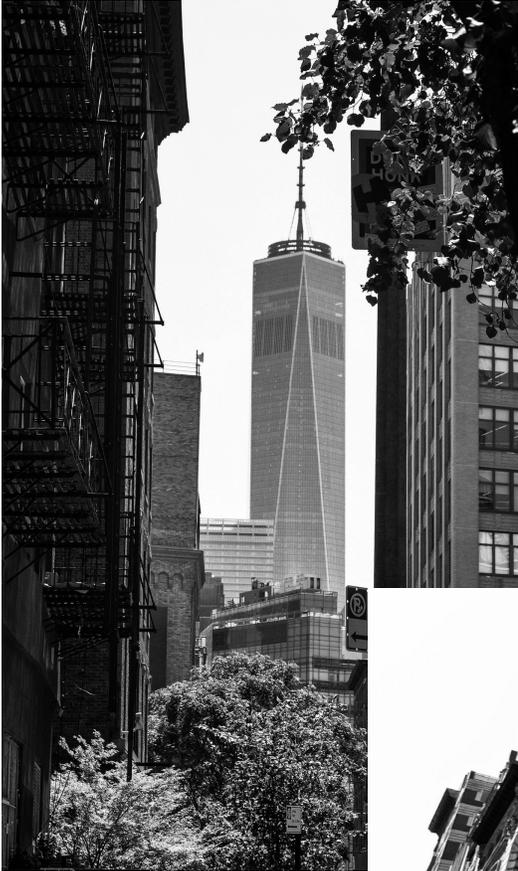
Some of the most iconic things about New York City are busy streets, taxis, steam rolling out of the subway, being up all night, and tall buildings. So, I wasn't surprised to have found this above shot.

However, I was surprised when I happened across a beautiful, ancient old cemetery in the middle of the busy streets of Manhattan, I love the old writing and the broken tombstones. When I got home and read that it was St Paul's Chapel, which is "The Little Chapel that Stood" from 9/11, I realized just how special it is.



STREET VIEW

A VIEW OF THE STREET



GOTHIC

FIND SOMETHING GOTHIC



St. Patrick's Cathedral

SPIN THE BLACK CIRCLE

A RECORD SHOP SELLING VINYL





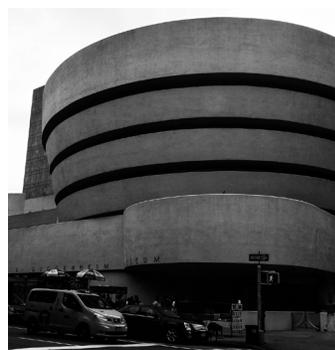
“THE STORY OF LIFE IS QUICKER THAN
THE WINK OF AN EYE, THE
STORY OF LOVE IS HELLO AND
GOODBYE...UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN”

JIMI HENDRIX



EXTRAS

ADDITIONAL PHOTOS



Additional and full sizes photos available in my [New York City](#) album on [Flickr](#).



INFORMATION		HARLEM LINE DEPARTURES		HARLEM		
Attention Customers: Never leave packages unattended Unattended items may be removed By the NTP Police Department Thank you for your cooperation		TIME	TRK. DESTINATION	REMARKS	TIME	TRK. DESTINATION
8:24	108 H. WHITE PLAINS	RELAY - 1ST STOP		10:51	111	SOUTHWEST
8:50	111 SOUTHWEST	FARROW - 1ST STOP		11:04	108 H. WHITE PLAINS	
9:24	108 H. WHITE PLAINS	RELAY - 1ST STOP		11:04	111 SOUTHWEST	
9:51	111 SOUTHWEST	CONNECTION TO HOBOKEN		11:54	108 H. WHITE PLAINS	
10:24	108 H. WHITE PLAINS	RELAY - 1ST STOP		12:24	108 H. WHITE PLAINS	



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