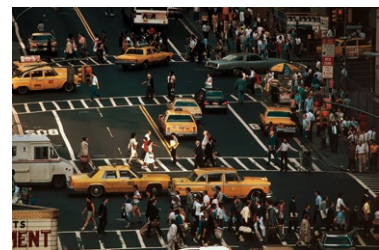


PRESS RELEASE | Berlin, July 21, 2026

f³ – freiraum für fotografie presents

***The Magic of the Street –
Masterpieces of Street Photography***

September 17 – November 29, 2026



The exhibition ***The Magic of the Street*** at f³ – freiraum für fotografie presents some of the most important names in the history of photography. It shows iconic works of street photography by artists including **Jane Evelyn Atwood, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Elliott Erwitt, Thomas Hoepker, William Klein, Steve McCurry, Joel Meyerowitz** and **Alexander Rodtschenko**, alongside the work of a younger generation of photographers, among them **Julia Baier, Jacob Aue Sobol, Fred Mortagne** and **Matt Stuart**.

Street photography is one of the most exciting and dynamic genres of photography. It documents people's lives in urban public spaces in an immediate and authentic way, revealing social change and cultural developments while preserving historical moments for future generations. Seen through the lens of outstanding photographers, an apparently ordinary moment becomes—through professional precision, unique subject matter, and a subjective visual language—a significant historical document that points far beyond the moment itself.

Street photography has its origins in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The invention of compact, lightweight cameras—most notably the *LEICA* 35 mm camera developed by Oskar Barnack—made it possible for photographers to leave the studio behind. The *LEICA* was the first camera to use 35 mm motion-picture film in a horizontal orientation, producing the now-standard 24 × 36 mm format. This technological innovation marked a revolution in photography: for the first time, photographers could capture everyday life spontaneously and directly, without the elaborate staging of lighting and poses.

Elliott Erwitt's humorous photographs, in which dogs vie with their human companions for the starring role; **Henri Cartier-Bresson's** early travel impressions; **William Klein's** images of Paris during the student protests of 1968; **Graciela Magnoni's** global project on women and girls; and **Steve McCurry's** powerful photographs of India's major cities: Through approximately one hundred photographs from the LEICA Archive, 45 photographers offer insight into the history of the medium from 1934 to 2023. *The Magic of the Street* features both world-famous images and surprising new discoveries.

The exhibition was curated by Karin Rehn-Kaufmann and Inas Fayed.

OPENING: Wed., September 16, 2026, 7–9 PM. Admission free!

GUIDED-TOUR: Sun., October 4 and November 1, 2026, 11 AM.

GUIDED-TOUR & DRINKS: Wed., October 28 and November 25, 2026, 7 PM.

In cooperation with:



With kind support:

**Förderverein
f³ – freiraum für fotografie e. V**

f³ – freiraum für fotografie | Prinzessinnenstraße 30 | 10969 Berlin

Opening Hours: Tue – Sun, 1 – 7 PM | **Admission:** 7 €, reduced 5 € | www.fhochdrei.org | [@fhochdrei](https://twitter.com/fhochdrei)

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IMAGE MATERIAL

The image material may be used **once** for current editorial coverage of the exhibition. **A maximum of three images may be used (online resolution: 72 dpi).** The images may not be modified, cropped, overprinted, or used for advertising or marketing purposes, or as cover images. **f³ – freiraum für fotografie, the artists, as well as the venue and dates of the exhibition, must be credited in every publication, along with the image captions.** All images must be deleted from databases and other storage media after this one-time use.

Hight-resolution print data is available for download at the following link:

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Gold Corner, New York, USA, 1974
© Joel Meyerowitz / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



Felix, Gladys and Rover, New York, USA, 1974
© Elliott Erwitt. Magnum Photos / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



Traffic at Times Square, New York, USA, 1983
© Thomas Hoepker/Magnum Photos / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



From the series *Nosotras*, Minneapolis, USA, 2019
© Graciela Magnoni / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



New York City, USA, 1995
© Jeff Mermelstein / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



Bob Dylan, Greenwich Village, New York City, USA, 1963
© Jim Marshall Photography LLC / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.

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Aus dem Zyklus, *Macht und Ritual*, 1986-2004
© Bernd Arnold / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



November 11, Armistice Day Paris, France, 1968
© 2026 William Klein Estate / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



Around the Central Park fountain, New York City, USA, 1997
© Louis Stettner Estate / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



Chess players at the Széchenyi Thermal Bath, Budapest, Hungary, 2003 © Matias Costa / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography*



During the monsoon, a woman with a child asks for a donation at a car window, Mumbai, India, 1993
© Steve McCurry / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.



Grand Central Station, New York City, USA, 1995
© Frieder Bickle / *The Magic of the Street. Masterpieces of Street Photography* from the Leica Archive.