



# THE BRIDGE OF LIGHT

The *Street Photography and beyond* Workshops  
with Todd Weinstein & Thomas Keller in New York

[www.thebridgeoflight.com](http://www.thebridgeoflight.com)



*There are almost too many possibilities. Photography is in direct proportion with our time: multiple, faster, instant. Because it is so easy, it will be more difficult.*

— Ernst Haas (1921–1986)



## Street Photography and beyond – Meet the Pros of the New York Photography and Art Scene

With the photography workshops in New York, Todd Weinstein and Thomas Keller are continuing the project-based teaching method of photographer Ernst Haas. It is based on encounters, dialogues and exchange. Weinstein assisted Haas in almost all of his workshops from 1972 until his death in 1986. “To dream with open eyes,” as Ernst Haas said, is the idea that we share with every student. The workshops are intended to inspire participants to find their own inner voice, to rely on their heart and their very own instincts; to start something without a plan, but to lay the foundation for something that is deeply connected to your own feelings.

Participants have the unique chance to meet photographers as well as designers and artists who work in commercial or artistic environments in person. Direct contact with professional, successful photographers and artists on site in New York, but also with those who are at the very beginning of their careers, allows participants to gain a deep insight into their professional and personal careers. Participants are also encouraged to develop their own project.

Another important part of the workshops is the experience in the group. The exchange between the participants plays a central role and makes this experience in New York an experience that is formative for one’s artistic career and life. Years later, we continue to receive emails from former participants who enthusiastically think back to the workshop in New York and describe that time as a crucial experience for their career and their live.

Over the past 17 years, around 230 students have taken part in our *Street Photography and Beyond* workshops. They offer participants the opportunity to make and deepen friendships outside of regular studies. Maybe these will help them later to develop a collaboration like ours, which led us to the *Street Photography and beyond* workshops in New York.

Thomas Keller & Todd Weinstein



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Robyn Seligman, Head Photo Editor, Forbes Magazine, Jersey City

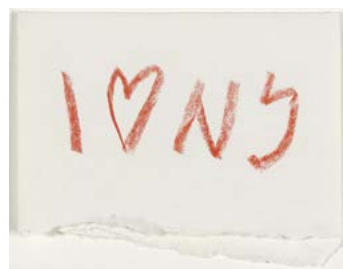


top: lecture with Duane Michals in his exhibition  
bottom: Bob Mansfield, Art Director, Forbes Magazine, Jersey City



Chuck Kelton with workshop participants, Kelton Labs, Jersey City (B&W-photographs by Robert Capa, printed by Chuck Kelton)





visiting Milton Glaser (1929–2020)  
*I love NY* concept draft by Milton Glaser (MoMA collection)

# Lecturers and studio visits:

At this point we would like to thank all those photographers, artists and institutions who have generously taken the time to meet with us over the years since 2007 and have patiently answered all our questions; be it in their exhibition, collection, or studio.

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Duane Michals	Ofer Wolberger	Michael Shulman
Sid Kaplan	Alen MacWeeney	Colleen Cunningham
Lori Nix	The Original Copy	Daniel Evan Rodriguez
Milton Glaser	Jeff Miller	Sidney Cash
Vik Muniz	Sidney Kaplan	Analisa Teachworth (The New Museum Lab)
Lars Tunbjörk	Deborah Bell	Natalya Bagrova
Neal Slavin	Sebastian Kaupert	Andrea Schramm
A.D.Coleman	Tamir Wolberger	Nelson Bakerman
Michael Kamber & Ricardo J. Partida (Bronx Documentary Center)	Michael Sarnacki	Perry Trotter
AIGA (American Institute of Graphic Arts)	Robb Krevolin	Sabine Baumgartner
Chris Allan (Bridge Photographic)	Margeaux Walter	Evan Shornstein aka Photey
Andres Serrano	Robert Mann	Timothy Showalter
Matthew Murphy (Magnum Photos)	Jeff Ladd (Errata Editions)	Stephanie Berger
Amador Gallery	Huge Inc	José Giribás
David Lubarsky	LTI Lightside Labs	David Zwirner Gallery
Pamela Hanson	Geoffrey Berliner (The Center for Alternative Photography)	Jennifer Rodewald (Center for Jewish History)
Adrian Kelterborn (Magnum in Motion)	Bill Mindlin	Julie Grahame (ASMP)
Heiko Kalmbach	Photograph Magazine	International Center of Photography (ICP)
Aperture Foundation	Camera One	Bianca Farrow (Photoville Festival)
Daniel Lee	Camera Doctor Frank Rubio	Loren Beri
Frank Fournier	Metropolitan Museum of Art	Christopher Voss & Jorge Garcia (NYC Street Photography Collective and Contact Gallery)
Pace/MacGill Gallery	Robert VanPelt	Laura Kruger (Curator Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion)
Henry Grossman	Gay Block	Printed Matter
Steven Kasher	DC Moore	Mark Decker (Director of Digital Imaging Forbes Magazine)
Brigitte Freed (Leonard Freed home visit)	Katherine Earle	Robyn Seligman (Head Photo Editor Forbes Magazine)
Anthony Barboza	Nashalina Schrape	Bob Mansfield (Art Director Forbes Magazine)
Phyllis Galembo	David Arky Zipangu	Jeff Chien-Hsing Liao
John P. Jacob (Inge Morath Foundation)	Eli Bierman	Isabelle Dervaux
The Hasselblad Study Center	Anthony Morris	Jan Staller
Museum of Modern Art	Edward Barns (LIFE Magazine)	Tony White (The Metropolitan Museum of Art Library)
Holger Thoss	Sebastian Bremer	Drew Sawyer (Curator Brooklyn Museum)
Adam Fuss	Wendy Small	Emily Navratil (Curator The Vilcek Foundation)
Sergei Franklin	Stephen C. Pinson (Photography Collection New York Public Library)	Claudia Zini (KUMA International)
Chuck Kelton	Andrew Savulich	German Consulate General
Pratt Institute	Jennifer Tobias (MoMA Library)	Stephen Mayes (Executive Director Tim Hetherington Trust)
Mel Adelglass	MoMA PS1	Ron Terner (Focal Point Gallery)
Smart Design	Studio 80 (Cameron Pratt, Sterling René Cervantes and Andreea Radulescu)	Sikkema Jenkins & Co.
Kentaro Fujii (Kimono NY)	Rebekah Maysles (Maysles Documentary Center)	Miki Takashima
Walter P. Sauer	Eric Fowler	Jon Lam (Photographer at Sotheby's)
Harvey Stein	Eleanna Anagnos	Jean Klebs
Maura Sullivan	Michael Flomen	and many more...
Charles Moretz	Jill Freedman	
Marc Asnin	Museum of American Illustration and Museum of Comic and Cartoon Art	
Louis Armstrong House	Linda Turner	
Eric Medsker	E. Tay Gallery	
James T Murray		
Isabelle Jud		
NYC Resistor		
Leonard Lewis		



Im Atelier von Lori Nix



Dale Kavanagh and Freya Copeland with Todd Weinstein and Jennifer Tobias, Head Librarian, MoMA [f.l.t.r.]







Visiting Neal Slavin at his studio, Manhattan



Gallery hopping in Chelsea | Visiting Magnum Photos | At the Artist Book Collection at MoMA





Lecture and book presentation by Harvey Stein in Todd Weinstein's studio

# Participants feedbacks

We are always happy to receive feedback. Sometimes even years later we received enthusiastic e-mails from participants who write us how important this experience in New York was for her professional and artistic development and for her life.

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The NY workshop with Thomas and Todd offers an opportunity to see a side of New York and photography beyond what you'll find in a guide-book. Though there is time for that, too. Our visits to studios, galleries, and organizations proved enlightening in showing us the wide array of photography's applications. I feel I learned a great deal, whether in listening to people talk about their work, or in exploring one of the many museums I visited during my time there. Participating in the workshop just after my first year of study had a profound and positive effect on the rest of my time in the photography program, and hope that others have the chance to follow their own paths through the streets of New York.

Joshua Phelps, USA

Der Workshop war für mich in vielerlei Hinsichten eine wertvolle Erfahrung; auf der einen Seite private Einblicke in das Leben und Arbeiten von unterschiedlichen Künstlern zu bekommen und auf der anderen Seite diese große Stadt kennenzulernen. Viele Eindrücke haben mich geprägt und sind mir geblieben, auch ganz unabhängig von der Fotografie. Ich kann den Workshop jedem nur ans Herz legen.

Lilia Belz, Germany

The workshop in NY with Thomas and Todd was an amazing experience in a lot of ways. To name a few: get to know one of the best cities for street photography; several opportunities and types of work were shared and that is helpful for someone who wants to be, at least, related to photography; the people we met and also random contacts on the street were fulfilling. Thanks both for your time and thanks NY for being the craziness you are.

Lourenço Carvalho, Portugal

Explore New York City in the way you would have never dared to dream about. Thomas and Todd will guide you through the dimensions of the city and its inspiring artists. A city full of diversity that you will get to know while getting inspired by the broad contacts that they have. Discover the roots of street photography and let yourself feel the adrenaline of our passion in your whole being. Such an inspiring trip that will make you want to just go for it, believe in yourself and create. Discover the soul of New York, feel its heartbeat together with yours, confronting and in harmony. The city has so many secrets for you to wonder around. Thank you for this unforgettable experience! I am so thankful and happy for our time that we were able to share in New York. Really, it feels incredible to be editing the photographs and relive them. Thank you, for everything, it was very special and I learned so much!

Eileen Wingaard Sjøqvist, Switzerland/France

The NYC workshop has taught me so much! First of all, it made me fall in love with the city which led to internships and little job offers later on and eventually to start applying for a work visa in the country. Pretty exciting! And all this started with the workshop because Todd and Thomas showed us how amazing NYC is for photographers. There are so many different

opportunities and so many diverse people around you. It makes you never want to put your camera down. During the workshop we had a full and intense week of meeting people of the industry, visiting exhibitions and places, experiencing the city and learning about photography. I found the whole trip super helpful. Not only did Todd and Thomas teach us a lot but the whole dynamic of the group gave me new energy and I also learned a lot of technical stuff from my fellow students. It seemed like each time I learned more during those few days than I did the whole rest of the semester in classes. It's an intense, busy and stressful time but worth every missing hour of sleep! I can only recommend this to anyone. Very thankful for the experiences, memories and new friends – and especially thankful for Todds' and Thomas' hard work and expertise.

Lia Laukant, Germany

To the greatest workshop teachers ever ;-) Thanks a lot for the great experience.

Isabell Kessler, Germany

I participated in the workshop with Thomas Keller and Todd Weinstein and cannot say that I could have hoped for more than it was. Though I did not learn any new techniques, I still remember learning a lot from Todd – especially keeping an open mind when it comes to rediscovering the known. Also, I listened enthusiastically and attentively to all the guest speakers that Todd invited to his studio, which were all bursting at the seams with information about their chosen field of photography. Another very fond memory I have about the workshop is the way Todd showed us New York – without him I would never have gone to Little Odessa, which turned out to be my chosen subject for the exhibition back home. The schedule we had kept us on our toes, but there was always enough time to attend one's own desires. Only the accommodations left something to be desired, but seeing as we only spent a few hours there every night to sleep, it was something to easily overlook. I highly recommend taking part in the workshop to anyone – I would do so again in a heartbeat! Thank you very much for the experience, I will always cherish the memory.

Till Alexander Andreev, Germany

I am glad we all could connect in New York! Thank you so much.

Sidhart Sircar, India

Todd and Thomas! Thank you so much for the fantastic workshop. I had such a great time in New York and can't wait to get back there!

Maximilian Glas, Germany

I would compare the NYC Workshop with Todd Weinstein and Thomas Keller to a photographers career day, but unlike the uninspiring career days held in highschool gymnasiums, Todd's and Thomas's were highly

interesting. The democratic selection of artists, careerists, archivists, commercial photographers, curators and producers served to broaden our concept of what it means to be a photographer. Especially now in the face of a rapidly morphing industry and economy. The city itself is an endless supply of stimulus, both for shooting and learning. Students were encouraged to explore their own interests outside of appointments and this independence was something I really enjoyed.

Freya Copeland, New Zealand

Mir hat der NY-Workshop viel gezeigt. Besonders der Besuch bei Magnum Photos und bei Frank Fournier in seinem Atelier in der Bronx haben mich sehr geprägt und mich in meiner Entscheidung für Reportage- und Dokumentarfotografie bestärkt. Die Besprechungen mit Todd und Thomas waren ebenfalls sehr hilfreich. Generell fand ich die Möglichkeit nach New York zu kommen und vor Ort Projekte verwirklichen zu können kurz und einfach genial!

Hannes P. Albert, Germany

The workshop with Todd Weinstein and Thomas Keller really was a blast for me. It not only opened my view on photography worldwide but also forced my understanding of the industry (for me especially fashion photography related – for example to assist a shooting with fashion photographer Pamela Hanson and to get in direct contact with her and her assistants). It was really nice to get a deeper view and meet interesting people in New York City.

Bastian Achard, Germany

I had one of the greatest and inspiring times of my life while my stay with Todd Weinstein and Thomas Keller. After the trip I made a very big decision for my future... After 8 years as a photographer for the military I really didn't know if I should do photography anymore, because I was really tired of doing all that boring documentation stuff. During my trip with Todd and Thomas I had the possibility to meet some very interesting people that are in the photography and art business, which gave me some fresh inspiration of what they do and how they fell in love with their work. Also we had much fun with the two teachers and it was exciting to get a look behind the doors of this big city. After the trip I realized that I love my job and all I want is taking pictures of people. I stopped studying and started my „Master in Photography“. After I finished I found a Studio and started my own business with my new company „Glanzportrait“. Today my focus is business, wedding and portrait photography just as well as teaching photography and sharing my passion with others. I'm very happy I found my way in the business and I'm really thankful that I had the opportunity to go on that trip.

Verena van Setten, Germany



Group shot, NY 2009



Studion visit Lori Nix & Kathleen Gerber

The NY Street Photography Workshop with Thomas and Todd was an incredible experience which I very much enjoyed. Everything was very well organized. They both had set up many interesting appointments and thanks to that we got to meet great artists and really nice people who told us about their background and about the type of art they did. As an art and photography student, I think it is a great opportunity to meet other photographers and artists. It is both, very helpful and inspiring to know other life and work stories and to know how they have all tried to pursue their dream and have found a way to be successful doing what they do. Thomas Keller is a very good teacher, always involved and genuinely helpful towards his students. Todd is really friendly and was very helpful during our stay. After the workshop I met Thomas in several occasions to discuss the pictures I took and he was always very interested and gave me great feedback. I really recommend the Workshop.

Mauricio Corridan, Spain

The Street Photography and beyond Workshop in New York was a great experience because we met a lot of very interesting and important people including Todd and Thomas! At first I thought that we would go out more to take pictures together but at the end of the week I understood that we had to get input before we can create something ourselves. I will recommend this workshop to all my fellow students.

Melissa Rachel Kavanagh, Germany

Der Workshop mit Todd Weinstein und Thomas Keller in New York hat mir, am Anfang meines Studiums, für Vieles die Augen geöffnet. Das

breite Spektrum an Angeboten, von Weinsteins eigenen Erzählungen und Erfahrungen über Treffen mit anderen prominenten Fotografen verschiedener Metiers hin zu Ausstellungs- und Archivbesuchen (Aperture, Magnum Photos, Inge Morath Foundation) hat mir eine Richtung für meinen eigenen Weg in der Fotografie gegeben. Dazu kamen die vielen Stunden auf der Straße, die Suche nach Bildern und das Entdecken des mir zuvor Unbekannten. Zurück in Berlin hat die gemeinsame Bildbesprechung mit Thomas Keller und Kommilitonen mit anschließender Ausstellung diesen Workshop vervollständigt.

David Vogt, Germany

It was a great workshop. We have seen a lot of stuff and great Designers which „normal people“ never could visit as easy as we did. Everything was well planned and it never got bored – of course it is America, maybe that's one of the reasons why, but there was all the time something new to see and to learn. In a few words: Great Workshop! Great People! Thank you very much.

Florian Wieschollek, Germany

I was really satisfied with the workshop. I was especially excited about meeting Magnum Photos. Todd's New York – an artist's one – is one that we could never, ever have seen on our own and, since this is the part of a city that interests me most, I'm grateful for that.

Tomke Roolfs, Germany

The Street Photography Workshop in New York is a great chance to meet new people. In this workshop I got to know incredible friends who remained great friends until now. I enjoyed the opportunity to visit a lot of galleries and to start making good contacts at the beginning of a career. There were many great presentations from other photographers, artists and assistants who live in New York. It was very interesting to understand how they manage to earn a living there. And last but not least of course we had time to enjoy one of the most amazing cities in America.

Magdalena Peralta Widow, Chile

The photography workshop was a real enrichment for me. Not just because we met a lot of important artists and learned a lot about photography but also because I had to force myself to reach out to total strangers and ask them if it's possible to take their picture. This meant a huge step forward for me. I also learned to watch out for the little things, the beautiful short moments and to catch them in a photograph. I remember everything, every little detail, every day and every moment I took a picture or did not (because of respect or shyness). This is something I am very grateful for. Do you remember a full 14 days trip that you made 6 years ago? I do! Thank you, Thomas and Todd, so much for that.

Hannah Lange, Germany

Bilder von New York im Kopf: Häuserschluchten, Freiheitsstatue, Wall Street. Diese Orte existieren wirklich – und man glaubt, schon tausendmal hier gewesen zu sein, auch wenn man das erste mal amerikanischen Boden betritt. Alles vertraut. Und doch ganz neu. Die zwei Wochen in der Stadt der Städte waren ein spannendes und intensives Erlebnis. Mit Todd an unserer Seite sind wir tief in die Seele New Yorks eingetaucht und haben Geschichten entdeckt, die dem Besucher normalerweise verborgen bleiben.

Jonas Willingstorfer, Germany

Even though I don't work as a photographer right now, the workshop was a great experience. During our time in New York, Todd not only showed us how to see the world with open eyes and to be open minded, but I also learned important lessons for life. And I am really thankful for that.

Christian Netter, Germany

This summer I took part at the Photography Workshop in New York and it was definitely worth to take the long flight. We met our teacher Thomas Keller and the photographer Todd Weinstein for the first time in Todd's apartment in Brooklyn and had a nice get together ending with a New York cheesecake at Junior's (a well known diner franchise). During the week Todd was a cool buddy, who showed us New York's art especially photography scene, shared with us his well-meaning life lessons he made in his entire career and recommended me so many good places to eat. Thanks to him our group of students had access to so many great people, too. Just to mention a few: we met Cameron Pratt Sterling who worked in his past for Richard Avedon or Ed Barns who told us about his mission of his life when he took his journey with Haitian refugees on a small boat through the ocean. We also had private audiences with Jennifer Tobias from the MoMA and Stephen C. Pinson from the New York Public Library. I feel very blessed these people generously spent some of their precious time especially for us!

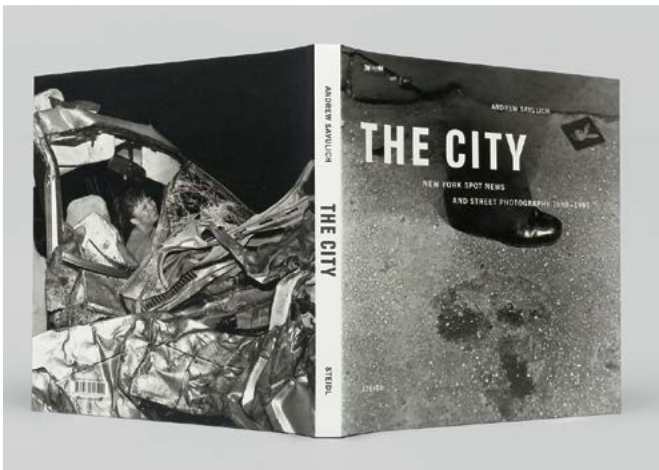
My Ngoc Le, Vietnam

I think the NY Workshop is a great opportunity to learn more about this amazing city and furthermore to be able to meet different artists there. Normally we wouldn't get to know them that easily, and thanks to both, Thomas and Todd, and to their contacts, these artists took the time to meet us. So I really enjoyed every single appointment with the different photographers and artists and everything they said about their work and experiences. All in all, I would say it was a very inspiring experience for me.

Olga Ryzevski, Poland

The New York Workshop definitely opened my eyes to go out, talk to the people in the art scene and tell them my story because everybody we met in NY did that, too. And I got inspired by them. It's a workshop for life. It's not just about taking photos. An important part of the workshop is meeting many artists from different scenes which showed us possibilities and prepared us for our very own artistic life.

Laura Maria Görner, Germany



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Visiting Andrew Savulich [this page and upper left] and Vik Muniz in his studio in Brooklyn [bottom left]

With Stephen C. Pinson, Curator of the Photo  
Collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art



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Publications, lectures, and editions as a result of the *Street Photography and beyond* workshops since 2007



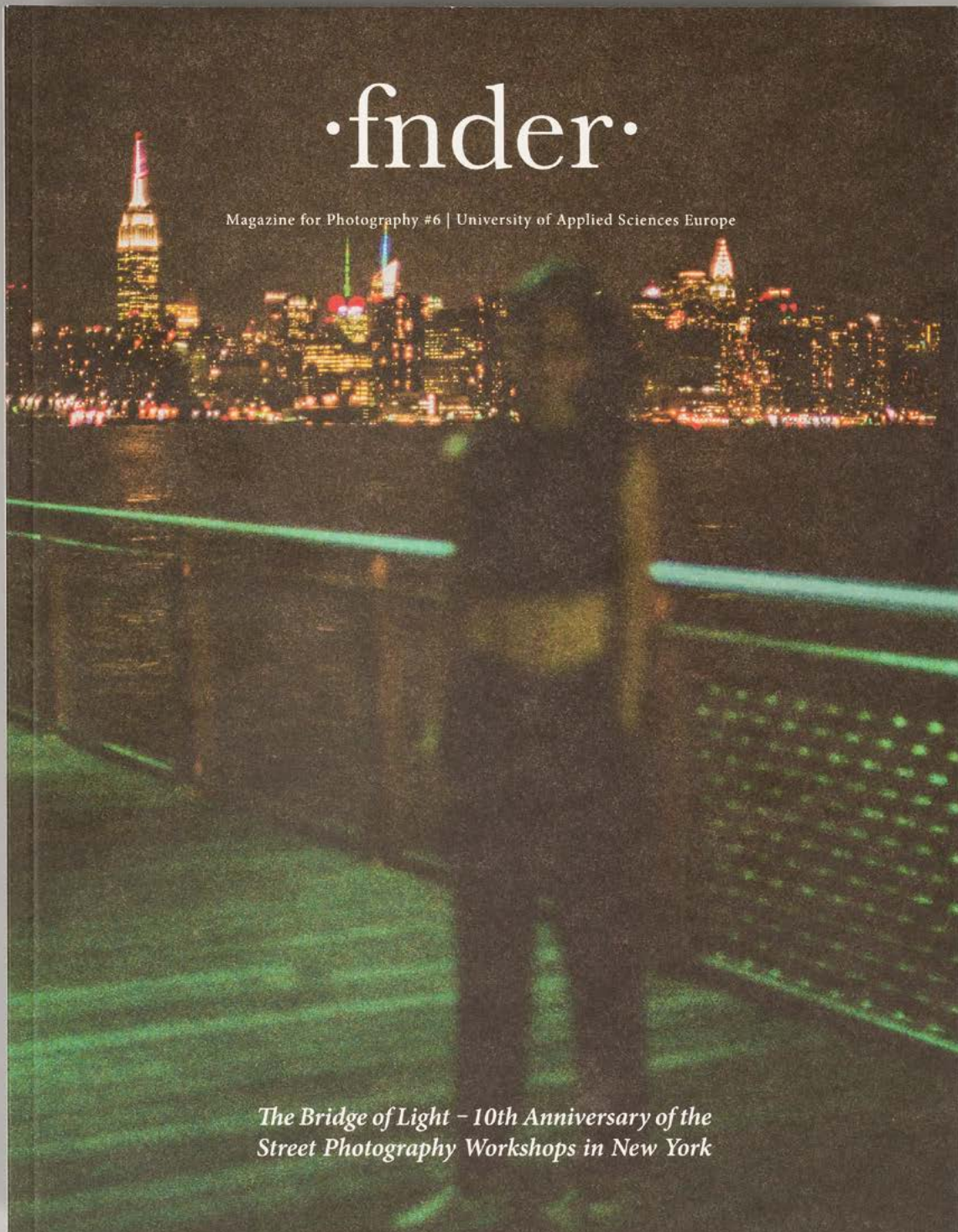




## Finder #6 – The Bridge of Light

A special edition of Finder Photo Magazine, published on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the street photography workshops with Todd Weinstein and Thomas Keller in New York. The magazine contains numerous student's works created in New York as well as text contributions by Mel Adelglass, Freya Copeland, Milton Glaser, Paul Graham, Thomas Keller, Duane Michals, Vik Muniz, Lori Nix, Joshua Phelps, Ron Terner, Jennifer Tobias, Todd Weinstein and many more.

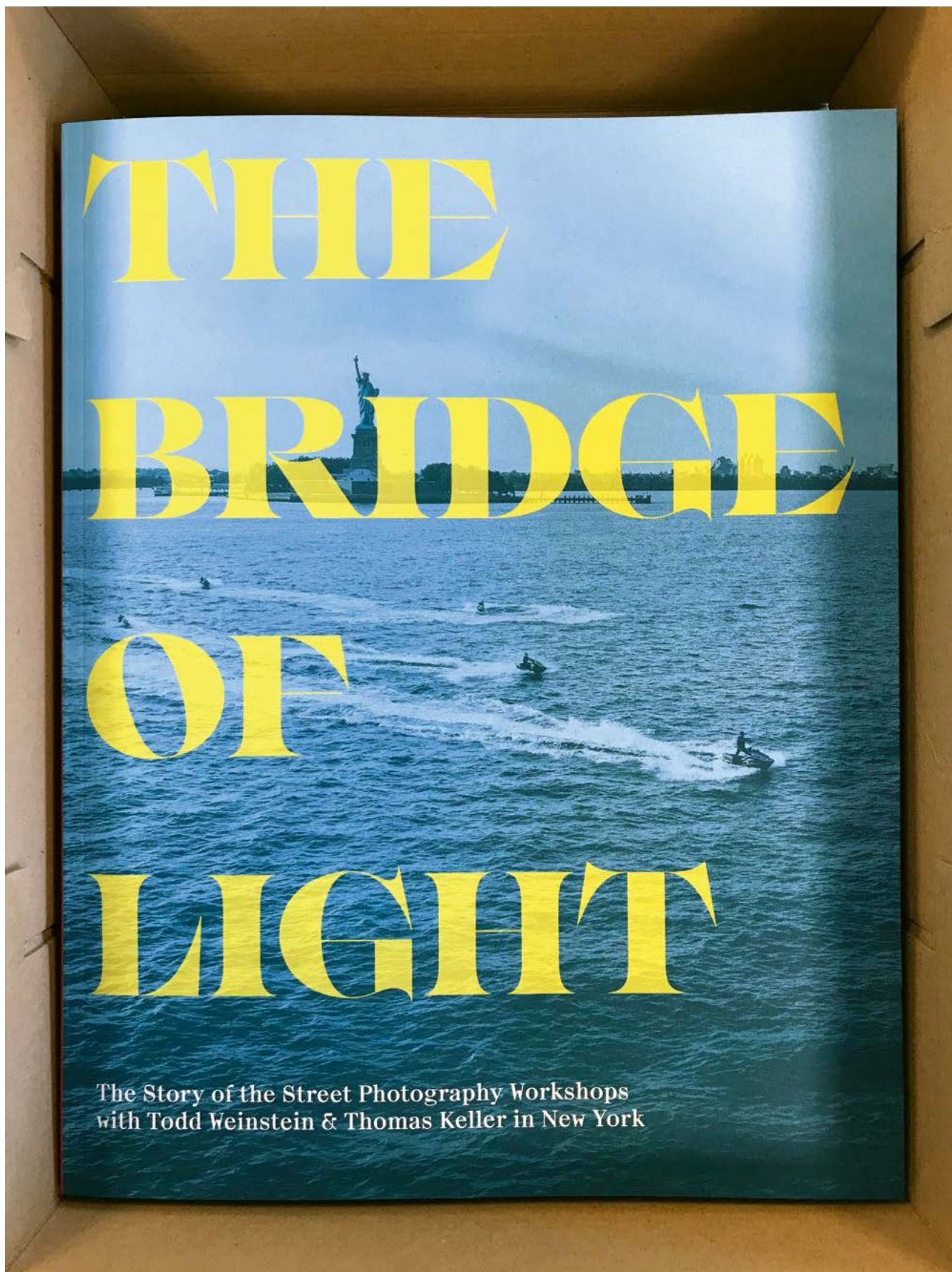
- Photo magazine, 112 pages, 21x27 cm, Offset
- Editing & design: Thomas Keller
- Cover photo: Cristina Salgar
- Run: 750 copies



# The Bridge of Light

The second and expanded edition of the out-of-print Finder Magazine #6 from 2018; with contributions from students as well as Mel Adelglass, Freya Copeland, Milton Glaser, Paul Graham, Thomas Keller, Duane Michals, Vik Muniz, Lori Nix, Joshua Phelps, Ron Terner, Jennifer Tobias, Tony White, Todd Weinstein and many others

- Catalogue, 168 pages, 21x27 cm, Offset
- Editing & design: Thomas Keller
- Cover photo: Leon Hahn
- Run: 1,000 copies











Thomas Keller & Todd Weinstein, Coney Island, Foto © Isabelle Jud Weinstein

## how to contact us

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