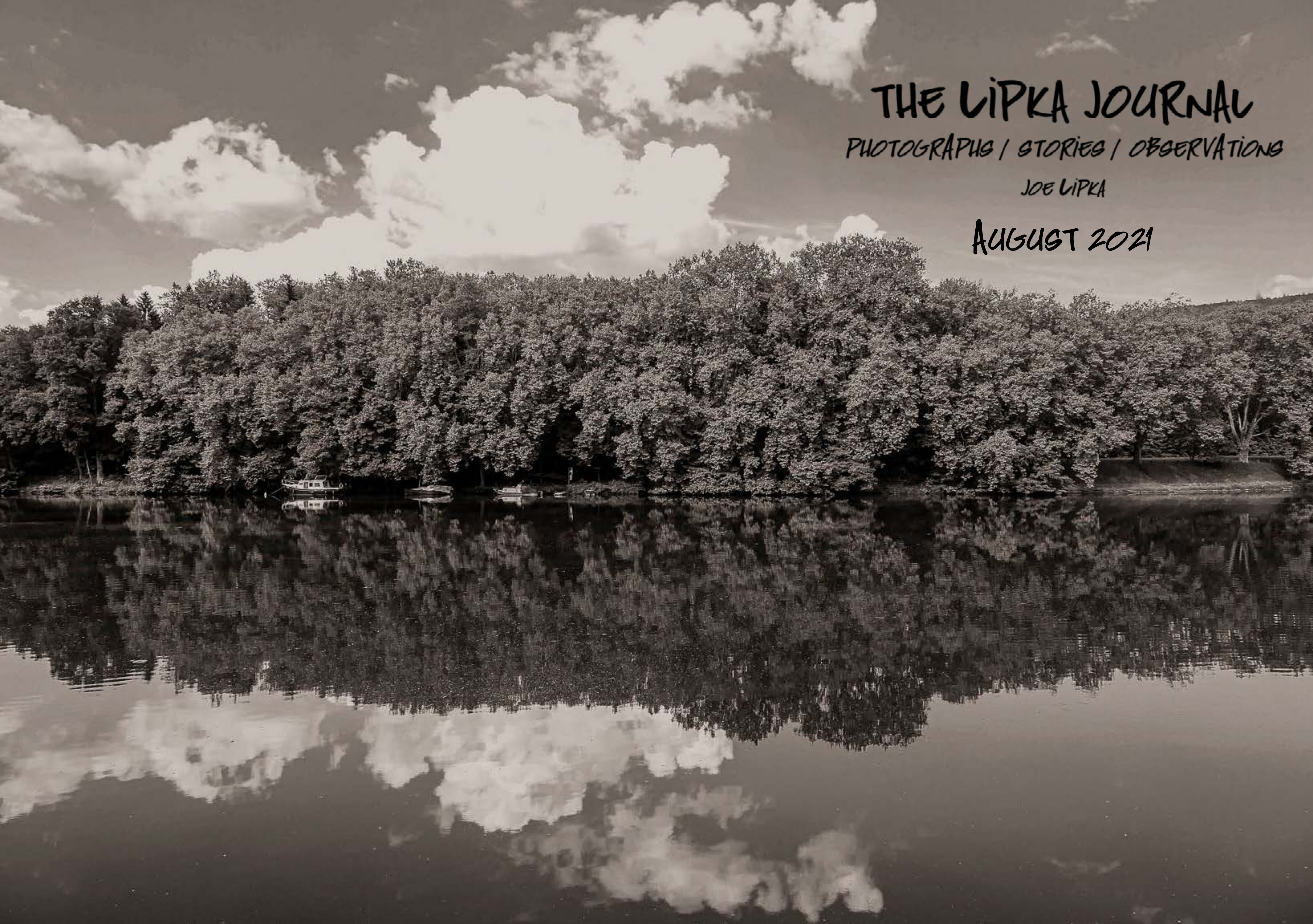


THE LIPKA JOURNAL

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

AUGUST 2021



WELCOME TO MY JOURNAL

AUGUST 2021

Making do with what's available. Sometimes you just want to make some photographs. Trouble is, you can't make the photographs you want to make. What to do? Make the photographs you can with what is in front of you.

A workshop instructor told me the best you could do in that type of situation was "work something up into a photograph." Nothing wrong with that, sometimes it's all you can do so you make the best with what you have.

You could be floating down the middle of a river on a beautiful spring day, be in a ghost town where all the doors are locked or in a great place where the foreground is wall to wall tourists.

What to do? Work something up into a photograph.

Fisherman's Bastion,
Budapest



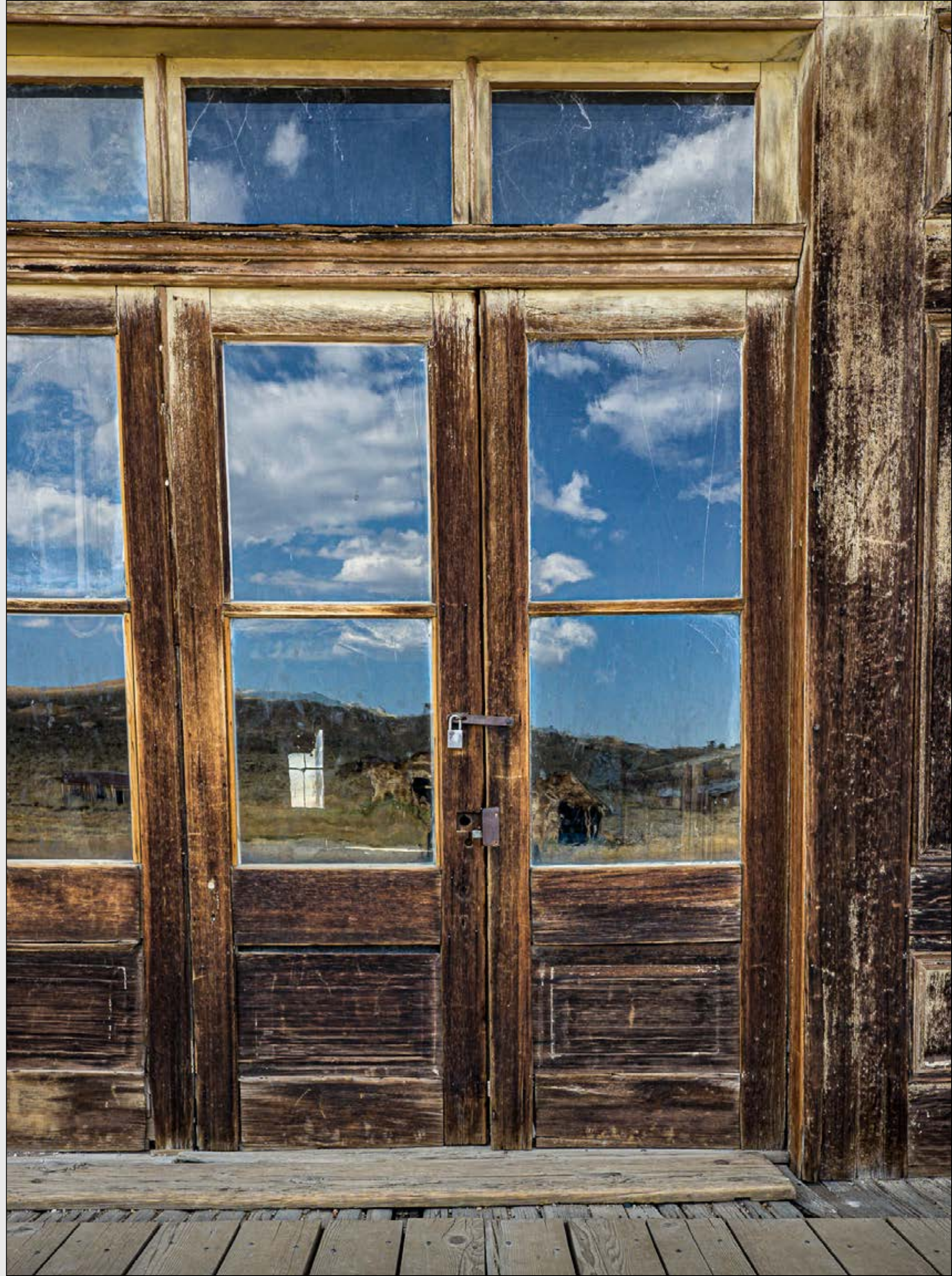


Being on the Outside

Being on the Outside

You can't always get what you want sang the Rolling Stones. What I wanted was to photograph the interiors of the old buildings in Bodie with all the things that were left behind. The State of California thought otherwise. The locked doors of Bodie ensure the artifacts will be preserved for posterity.

Instead, the story of Bodie is told with the outside of the buildings, the reflections of the windows and maybe the briefest glimpse of the interiors. We cannot see inside, but only a reflection of the life surrounding Bodie.





















Six Word Project

Photographers waiting for the decisive moment.

Xiangshawan, PRC, January 2011

Rolling Down the River



Rolling Down the River

There are times when the photographer must go to the place to be photographed. There are rare occasions where the place comes to the photographer. Rolling down the River on a fine spring day, the world presents itself for your photographic approval. As the world passes you by, all that is necessary is to wait for the decisive moment when all is in balance and a photograph is made.

One must not ignore the opportunity to make an “easy” photograph. At the very least, the opportunity is there to even out the karmic balance for the many times it is really tough to make a photograph.











Spires

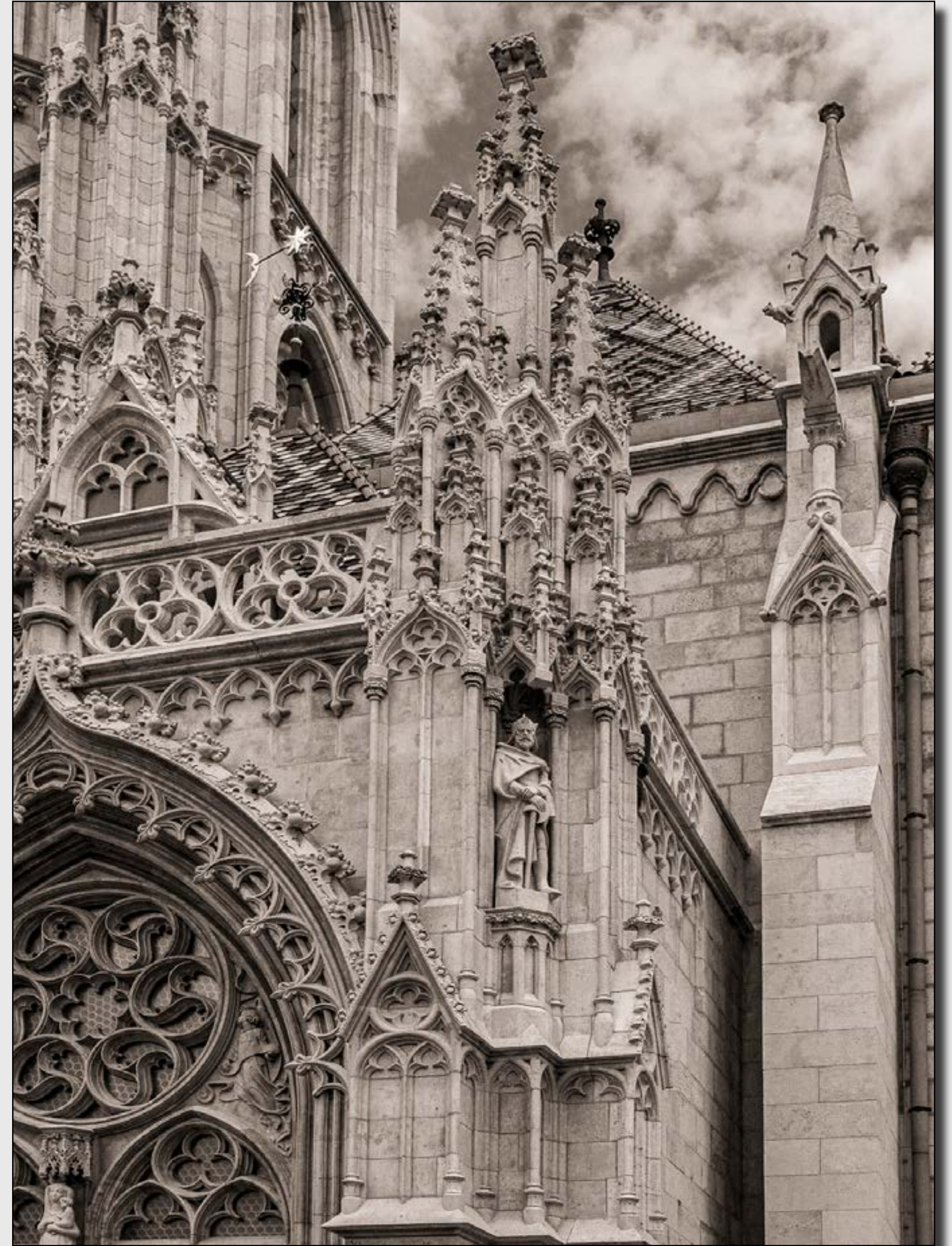


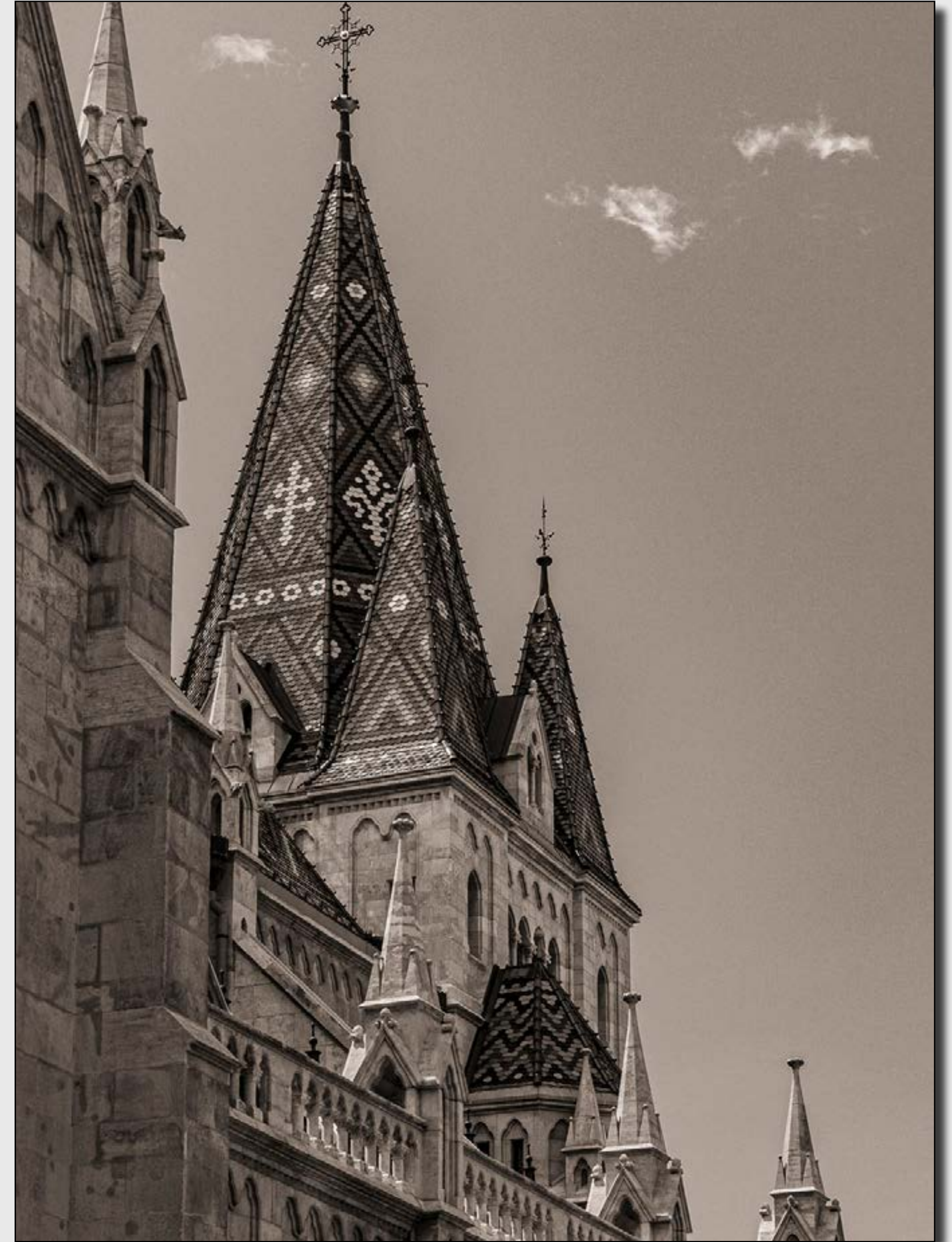
Spires

Spires are more than architectural ornaments. They signify importance, a desire to reach for the heavens, they are a projection of power to those who would attempt to capture the building. They proclaim to the world the creators have the power, the means and the knowledge to create something the average person cannot do.

The rest of us must raise our eyes to see the greatness in front of them.













Six Word Project

Photographers waiting for the decisive moment.

Bandon, Oregon, USA, June 2021

Postcards from the Creative Journey

January 3, 2016



Tori at Fort Stevens

Family vacations are really not the best place to make Fine Art Photographs, but sometimes you get lucky and it does happen. We were giving my brother a tour of the Pacific Northwest and we stopped at one of my favorite photographic haunts, Fort Stevens at the mouth of the Columbia River. People think all sorts of things about this photograph because of the symbolism of a child, the stairs, menacing concrete structures and the smallness of the child in a huge space all exaggerated by the extreme wide angle lens.

My daughter started to run down the stairs to begin her exploration of the fort. When I saw what was going to happen, I told her to stop because I needed to change to my 17 mm lens. Because I am a photographer, I moved her around a little bit to put her on the "right" stair, line her up with the shadows and extend her arms to touch each of the railings. A few frames later, she finished running down the stairs and began exploring the fort and generally having a good time.

Sometimes a photograph tells a story; sometimes a photograph lets the viewer make up their own story. Sometimes the two stories will agree.



Greetings from Bodie, California

A Few Closing Words

Being on the Outside

Bodie, California is a State Park and it has definite operating hours. Naturally, the hours do not include the “golden hours” of the day. Most every door in the town is locked. The credo is preservation by exclusion and tourists are not allowed inside. Exterior photography it is.

Rolling Down the River

One way to get to Budapest is floating down the Danube River. The beauty of Central Europe is presented to you on either side of the river. All one does is point the camera and watch the beauty fill the EVF. Because the boat does not stop, the landscape photographer must become aware of Bresson’s Decisive Moment to make a photograph.

Spires

The Fisherman’s Bastion overlooking the city of Budapest is a World Heritage Site. It is an amazing group of buildings usually filled with tourists. The photographic problem is to figure out a way to photograph the magnificence of the buildings without including wall to wall tourists. The camera is pointed upward to photograph the spires.



Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last thirty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred juried exhibitions, more than twenty solo exhibitions and have been printed in both *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and F-Stop Magazines.

His website www.joelipkaphoto.com has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, feature a photograph and a little bit of writing.

His newest blog, *The Daily Photograph*, is simply that. A new and interesting image posted every morning at 8:00 AM.

COLOPHON

The Lipka Journal, August 2021

Joe Lipka

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Web site: www.joelipkaphoto.com

Blog: <http://blog.joelipkaphoto.com/>

Blog: https://joelipkaphoto.typepad.com/the_daily_photograph/

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