

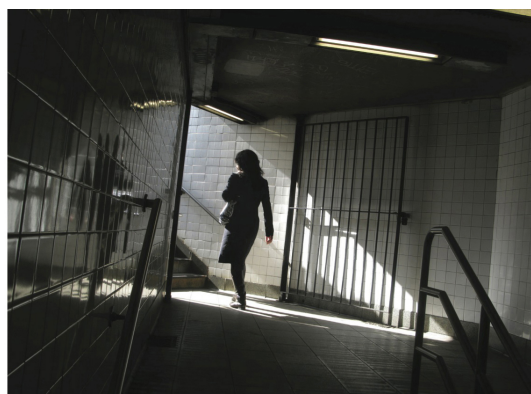
reviews LIBRARY JOURNAL

Xpress Reviews: Nonfiction | First Look at New Books, April 12, 2013

★Bernstein, Len. **Photography, Life, and the Opposites**. Delia Press 2012. 210p. ISBN 9780984676538. \$60. PHOTOG

Photographer Bernstein credits the philosophy of Aesthetic Realism as “a beautiful way of seeing” that allows photographers “to like the world through knowing it.” As evidenced in his touching images, Bernstein loves the world he photographs, especially people glimpsed in warm, intimate moments on the seemingly anonymous streets and subways of New York and elsewhere. He not only captures what Henri Cartier-Bresson called decisive moments but also exquisitely sweet, tender ones. Pulitzer Prize–winning writer Robert Coles (psychiatry, emeritus, Harvard Univ.; *Handing One Another Along: Literature and Social Reflection*) contributes a brief foreword, promising that readers will be moved by the images and accompanying commentary. An awareness of each subject’s humanity shines through Bernstein’s poignant images of ordinary people in otherwise everyday situations. All of the photos are artfully composed, with a hint of whimsy running like a bright thread through many of them. Bernstein describes each of his images in an informal paragraph or two, as if he were addressing a journal or chatting with someone on the street.

PHOTOGRAPHY, LIFE, *and the* OPPOSITES



LEN BERNSTEIN
FOREWORD BY ROBERT COLES

Verdict Anyone who likes photography, from young amateur to seasoned professional, will love this book.—Raymond Bial,* Urbana, IL