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PHOTOGRAPHY, LIFE, *and the* OPPOSITES

Taught by Len Bernstein

In this workshop you will learn what I am grateful to have studied for many years: how every successful photograph is a oneness of opposites. For example, the best technical choices are always the result of a photographer having an emotion that is fair to his or her subject, and wanting to convey it to others. What we feel about a subject has everything to do with what we decide to include or exclude (otherwise known as cropping), or choosing a moment we hope reveals eternal meaning and has a good effect on another person.

I am proud to teach what I've learned from Aesthetic Realism, that the most important choice we will ever make as photographers is to see the world, and the people and things in it, as having meaning we can respect. It's a beautiful fact that when we go after respect, we are much more likely to make the right choices, both in art and in life, when a split-second decision is required—and photography is after all, often about making split-second decisions.

These workshops—based on the Siegel Theory of Opposites—are customized to an individual's needs and what they are hoping for as photographers. Here are some of the subjects that have been discussed in previous workshops:

- How can we feel at ease photographing people on the street?
- Portraiture: using surface to reveal depth
- Composition as a oneness of unity and diversity
- Photographing the family—a oneness of the near and far, the familiar and the wondrous

For further details about this workshop, including scheduling and fees, please use the Contact form.



Portrait ©Harriet Bernstein

Len Bernstein began his study of photography in 1974 with Lou Bernstein, a member of the Photo League. The following year he began his study of the education Aesthetic Realism in consultations with The Kindest Art, and later studied with its founder Eli Siegel, the esteemed American poet and philosopher. Len's images are in many museum collections as well as the Masters Collection of the Library of Congress, and the Bibliothèque nationale de France. He has taught workshops here in the US and abroad, including The University of Northampton, England. His book, *Photography, Life, and the Opposites*, is published by Delia Press, with a foreword by Robert Coles. He resides in New York with his wife and editor Harriet, where they are having the time of their lives studying in professional classes taught by Chairman of Education Ellen Reiss at the Aesthetic Realism Foundation.