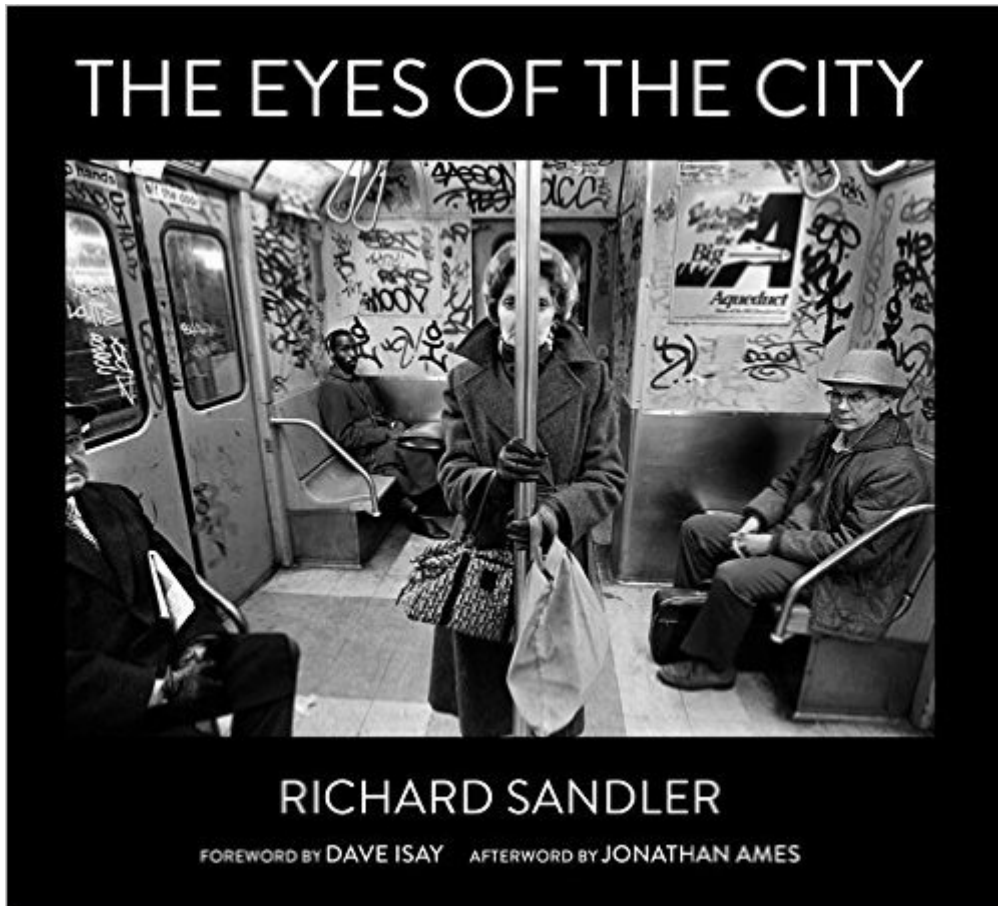


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The Eyes Of The City



Synopsis

Timing, skill, and talent all play an important role in creating a great photograph, but the most primary element, the photographer's eye, is perhaps the most crucial. In *The Eyes of the City*, Richard Sandler showcases decades worth of work, proving his eye for street life rivals any of his generation. From 1977 to just weeks before September 11, 2001, Richard regularly walked through the streets of Boston and New York, making incisive and humorous pictures that read the pulse of that time. After serendipitously being gifted a Leica camera in 1977, Sandler shot in Boston for three productive years and then moved back home to photograph in an edgy, dangerous, colicky New York City. In the 1980s crime and crack were on the rise and their effects were socially devastating. Times Square, Harlem, and the East Village were seeded with hard drugs, while in Midtown Manhattan, and on Wall Street, the rich flaunted their furs in unprecedented numbers, and "greed" was good. In the 1990s the city underwent drastic changes to lure in tourists and corporations, the result of which was rapid gentrification. Rents were raised and neighborhoods were sanitized, clearing them of both crime and character. Throughout these turbulent and creative years Sandler paced the streets with his native New Yorker's eye for compassion, irony, and unvarnished fact. The results are presented in *The Eyes of the City*, many for the first time in print. Overtly, they capture a complex time when beauty mixed with decay, yet below the picture surface, they hint at unrecognized ghosts in the American psyche.

Book Information

Hardcover: 180 pages

Publisher: powerHouse Books (November 8, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1576877876

ISBN-13: 978-1576877876

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.9 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Best Sellers Rank: #174,707 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in Books > Arts &

Photography > Photography & Video > Architectural > Cities #97 in Books > Arts & Photography

> Photography & Video > Individual Photographers > Monographs #899 in Books > Arts &

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