

[Fig. 4] Martha Cooper,  
Cooper Rock Steady, 1981





[Fig. 5] Graciela Iturbide, *Mujer ángel* (Angel Woman), Sonoran Desert, Mexico, 1979

It was in this global context that Martine Franck's photography career took off in France, as did Ruth-Marion Baruch's in San Francisco. In Northern England, Shirley Baker was creating a remarkable archive of street photography that would span decades, while New York City became a magnet for a small cadre of women street photographers such as Jill Freedman and Mary Ellen Mark.

Mark started shooting the city streets in the mid-1960s and would eventually travel around the world creating her distinctively compassionate documentary and street images. "I remember the first time I went out on the street to shoot pictures," Mark once said. "I was in downtown Philadelphia and I just took a walk and started making contact with people and photographing them, and I thought: 'I love this. This is what I want to do forever.' There was never another question."<sup>10</sup> Her first book, *Passport*, was published in 1974, and she went on to publish twenty books in total.

By the early 1970s, Susan Meiselas was photographing strippers and had begun her long-running New York City project *Prince Street Girls*. Her work

has served as inspiration across genres. Martha Cooper moved to New York in 1975 and became—as she remains, almost five decades later—the premier documentarian of graffiti, street art, and their makers [Fig. 4]. Her photographs of furtively illustrated subway cars, and urban life in general, are iconic, offering time travel to anyone nostalgic for hand-painted trains, rather than ones fully wrapped in Target ads.

In 1979, Donna Ferrato arrived in New York City and began photographing the city's nightlife scene in legendary clubs such as Studio 54 and the swingers' paradise Plato's Retreat. The dichotic dynamic of New York City in the late 1970s and early '80s also set the stage for Meryl Meisler, who photographed the dizzy mania of Manhattan's disco scene by night while documenting the extreme urban decay of Bushwick, Brooklyn, by day—long before it became a hipster haven.

Elsewhere, Tish Murtha was focusing on youth unemployment and marginalized communities in Northern England, Graciela Iturbide was capturing the lives of Mexico's underrepresented native cultures, [Fig. 5] and Janet Delaney was exploring San Francisco's changing neighborhoods. And this is but a few of the women taking photos in public at the time, a group that would grow exponentially in the decades to come.

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At this point in our story, everyone was still working in film, but then came the sea change that would dramatically alter the course of photography: the development of digital cameras. The first one was built in 1975 by an engineer at Eastman Kodak. Thirteen years later, in Japan, Fujifilm launched the world's first fully digital camera, which saved data to a memory card that could store five to ten photographs.

10 William Grimes, "Mary Ellen Mark, Photographer Who Documented Difficult Subjects, Dies at 75," *New York Times*, May 27, 2015, online at [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com).

3.

## Efrat Sela

Early one Friday morning, I noticed from far away a group of ultra-Orthodox youth walking in the park. I walked toward them. The contrast was beautiful when they approached the *Serpentine* sculpture and started to climb it for fun; I was there to capture the moment.

*Efrat is a street and documentary photographer working in Israel. She is fascinated by the human experience in all its forms, looking for mankind's interaction within society and culture.*





*The Serpentine, Tel Aviv, Israel, 2017*

## Ruti Alon

I am fascinated by the Roma community, maybe because much of it reminds me of the Jews over many centuries. Today, however, there is a distinct difference which contributes to my curiosity. I have visited Roma communities in several European countries. The largest concentration is in Romania, where I came across a very marginalized community outside of Brasov.

I spent a lot of time visiting the village, trying to meet as many of the families as possible and learn about their traditions, habits, social interactions within and outside the family, work skills and education, and living conditions. On one foggy morning, I suddenly saw this amazing scene of the lady with the doll. I assumed it belonged to her daughter, but the way she held it, and the despair in her eyes, caught me unprepared. It was so beautiful, with the turquoise house, while at the same time very sad and hopeless—very much like the lives of so many members of the Roma community across Europe.

*Ruti is a documentary photographer with roots in the USA and Israel. Her work depicts the breadth of life and activity in remote communities around the world.*



RUTI ALON, Israeli



*A Roma Lady with her Doll in a Fog and Mysterious Dawn, Brasov, Romania, 2013*

# Danielle L. Goldstein

New York City is vast, in its architecture, infrastructure, and commerce, as well as in its sensory onslaught and constant supply of humanity. That is what makes it both fascinating and overwhelming. It's easy to get lost here. But we often forget that this dense urban forest is, in reality, a collection of individual trees.

I aim to highlight these individuals and their relationship to the structures of the city. Bringing awareness to the city's small moments is an act of devotion to the individuals who reside here and to the beauty of their surroundings. I sought out this location for its graphic architecture and complex lines. It's industrial and gritty, representative of New York's unusual charm. It was quite empty on that day, and I waited patiently for someone to enter my frame. When she did, with her confident saunter, the connection between the industrial and the human was complete.

*Danielle is based in New York City. Her work has been exhibited internationally and is part of the permanent collection of the Museum of the City of New York.*



DANIELLE L. GOLDSTEIN, American



*Alone*, New York City, USA, 2019

# Monica Flannery

Studying architecture and seeing how others live have always been two of my favorite aspects of travel. I captured this photo on my phone from the top of a double-decker tourist bus when I travelled to Stockholm in July 2018.

Initially, I was only trying to capture the lovely green building with its shuttered windows as the bus sped by. It wasn't until I got home and examined the photos that I happily discovered the woman peering out and the strange item (backbone? seahorse?) in the bottom right-hand window. Small discoveries of humanity and mysteries like these are why I love photography so much—my eyes hadn't even seen these details, but my camera was able to capture them forever.

*Monica works as an art director and design lecturer. Her photography of individuals and architecture is often infused with quirky humor.*



*Window Peep, Stockholm, Sweden, 2018*

# Jutharat Pinyodoonyachet

This photo is important to me. I was confused about my career path so I went to Coney Island in the morning to clear my head. It was a bright day but there weren't many people around as it was winter. I was walking on the boardwalk when I saw this man. It took me a while to get close enough to take the photograph. I was lucky that he didn't stop stretching when I reached the perfect distance for shooting. I was so delighted when I got the photo. It made my day.

*Jutharat is a Bangkok-born photographer. She works as a photojournalist and is based in New York City. She loves to capture people's moments in ordinary life.*



JUTHARAT PINYODOONYACHET, Thai



*Mind Flayer*, Coney Island, New York City, USA, 2017

## **Orna Naor**

For the last thirteen years, Israeli women from the Machsom Watch organization have helped bring women and children from Palestinian villages to the beach; for most of them it's for the first time in their lives.

Their fear and anxiety soon change to joy and laughter.

*Orna is a street and documentary photographer based in Tel Aviv, Israel; her work focuses on emotional issues and moments.*



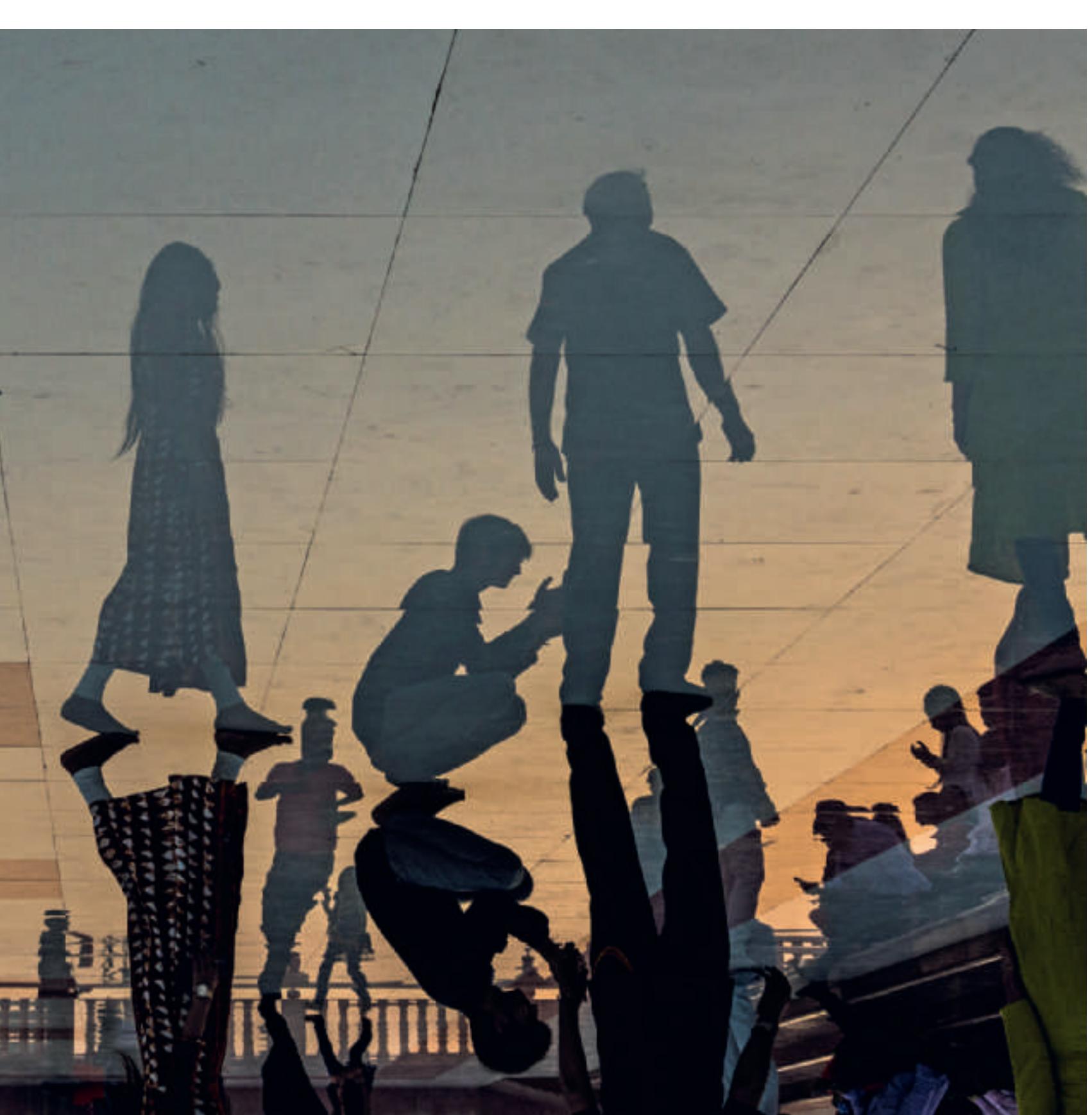
*Women of the Sea, Tel Aviv, Israel, 2019*

## Prabha Jayesh

This photograph was taken in a temple outside my hometown Patdi in the state of Gujarat. It frames the reflections of temple visitors on the polished floor in the evening light. The photograph captures the emotions of the people and the evening activities of the visitors at the temple. As the author Peter Drucker once said, "Follow effective action with quiet reflection. From the quiet reflection will come even more effective action."

*Prabha is a street and documentary photographer based in Ahmedabad, India. Her current work relates to education, environmental issues, social taboos, and the life of visually impaired people.*





*Stories in Reflection, Patdi, Gujarat, India, 2017*