

## Project #2: The Decisive Moment

*"The creative act lasts but a brief moment, a lightning instant of give-and-take, just long enough for you to level the camera and to trap the fleeting prey in your little box."*

– Henri Cartier-Bresson

### Conceptual Requirements:

For this assignment, shoot a series of pictures using Henri Cartier-Bresson's philosophy of the Decisive Moment. A great way to approach this project is to have your camera with you and ready to shoot at all times. Your subjects can and should vary widely, so open yourself up to your intuition, your reflexes, and the possibility that a great picture can happen anywhere and at any time!

### Technical Requirements:

Since this project largely depends on your ability to react quickly, you should try to use your camera hand-held and with relatively fast shutter speeds. Since there may be little time to focus and adjust your exposure settings & focus, you can use the "range-focusing" technique shown in class.

As a reminder, it works by taking a reading of the lighting condition and selecting an aperture to go with your preselected shutter speed (which should usually be faster than 1/60th, but preferably 1/125th or faster). Then continue using that aperture, only changing it if the lighting condition changes.

If you use this method, you should then be able to spot focus, the way you usually do by looking through the lens and focusing on a point, OR range focusing by using the focus scale numbers engraved on your prime (fixed focal length) lens.



In this example you have F22, so you would have everything in focus from a range of about 4 feet to 13 feet (your depth of field) according to the markings.

For your first time out, I suggest shooting in bright daylight perhaps on a busy street with lots of pedestrians or action.

### Deliverables:

- 2 Rolls of film each week, 8 rolls total (including contact sheets)
- 5 Great Prints on critique day. See the syllabus for due dates and pacing.