



The summer and travel time

Written by Pedro Meyer

Months come and go. I should have delivered my editorial quite some time ago. The only reason I have not been fired for not delivering is that my co-workers treat me with a lot of kindness and understanding.

There has been a combination of a lot of travel, the World Cup, and writer's block. These reasons, or excuses shall I say, combined with an overload of social activities seem to be sufficient to look upon my feelings of guilt -for not delivering- with some degree of complacency. After all, I was thinking of all of you all the time, and preparing what I hope will be some ideas to share with you.

In the meantime (while I have been wandering all over the world) our staff here in ZoneZero has continued to produce some wonderful new exhibitions. Plus we have in the pipeline one year's worth of material you will really come to appreciate as the year progresses. In other words, I have been the only one around here that has been somewhat laggard.

You should know that when I travel, taking pictures of all that happens to me is part of the fun of just being where I'm at. The categories into which the images I made during the trip end up in my archive are one or more of the following: formal portraits, pictures of friends, landscapes, social commentary, street photography, autobiographical, travel images, etc.

It's not accurate to imagine that one just takes one style of imagery when traveling. I for instance take my camera (or cameras) everywhere I go, and I take pictures of everything that I

come across. That way I end up with an array of imagery that is very diverse in nature as mentioned above.

One of the main issues that come up in the process of working like this is what camera should I take with me. You will probably be surprised to read, that my decisions are centered mainly on the weight of what I have to carry around all day.

I suppose most photographers belong to the “back ache” club, it seems that in man’s evolutionary process, carrying around a lot of weight hanging either from your neck or one of your shoulders was not contemplated in the original design. We therefore end up with a lot of pain around our lumbar region as a result of carrying a lot of weight around all the time. So size as it relates to weight does matter.

However, technological advances have come to our aid in a very meaningful manner in dealing with weight issues. Cameras that are smaller and more powerful than ever before are making themselves present in direct competition with the heavy weights. Consider the most recent version of the Casio camera (remember the Casio watches and calculators? Casio knows how to make small things) the model EX-Z1000, that has no less than 10.1 megapixels, and is incredibly fast.

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Being a digital camera, it has a lot of features, including a built-in LCD screen, a flash, and a variety of shooting modes. It's a great camera for anyone who wants to take high-quality photos without the bulk of a DSLR.



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