

Around the World in One Camera

project by Wojtek (*voy-teck*) Gil

Imagine a camera, with enough film for 36 shots, making its way to 36 cities around the globe -- and at every stop, one person takes just one photograph.

This traveling camera, a photographic ambassador of sorts, is the invention of photographer, Wojtek Gil, whose belief that a moment of life captured in Sao Paulo might not look all that different from one captured in Osaka, comes to life in this innovative project.

"I wanted to do something to erase borders, to show just how much alike everyone is on a basic level," Wojtek says. "How many people in the world saw a baby cry or a man riding a bicycle today? I would love to know! If 10,000 people saw a man riding a bicycle, then 10,000 people had the same experience." For Wojtek, capturing everyday life is at the heart of this worldwide photographic endeavor.

The camera for his project, a 35mm Lomo Action Sampler, which Wojtek describes as "the hero of the journey", produces four sequential pictures. The camera spent several days with each participant who photographed an image that struck him or her, adding a note about the shot before forwarding the Lomo Action Sampler to its next destination.

Combining technical ingenuity with an astute and instinctive eye, Wojtek has built an impressive portfolio that chronicles the sometimes gritty, always exquisite, human condition. "Around The World in One Camera" is his contribution to today's global experience - a literal and figurative snapshot from the unique and collective perspectives of the participants who have chosen to take this journey with him.

"People are grouped by how much money they make, by which disease they suffer from, the religion they practice, the color of their skin I could go on and on but at the end of the day, we all still see a man riding a bicycle."

Please visit the "Around the World in One Camera" website at www.aroundtheworldinonecamera.com for daily updates on the journey or to join the Forum with your thoughts and comments.

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