

VOL. 01 / Jan-Feb 2022

BasicsFoto.

everything about photography

Basics Features

Journey of an
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Colours of India

#BackToBasics

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BasicsFoto.
Everything About Photography

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EDITORIAL



I am proud to introduce the first issue of our magazine and begin this journey of exploration together!

The very idea behind BasicsFoto has been 'Going back to basics', the process of learning and unlearning the art. To be able to learn photography's very basics from the experts as well as other creators without any inhibitions in expressing themselves and getting an unforgettable experience out of it. The magazine is for the creators, by the creators; where experts, beginners and everyone in between share the same platform.

The most asked question is why photography? Well for me the answer could be very simple, why not photography? It can be so much more than being just a technique. It can be moments shared, or forgotten. It can be lost photos, discarded photos, or photos not taken. It can be documentation or not. It can be strangers turned into friends or friends turned into strangers. It can be road less traveled or street full of people. The words will fall short if I keep writing and as Ansel Adams says, "When the words become unclear, I shall focus with photographs. When images become inadequate, I shall be content with silence."

**"Every
experience is a
form of
exploration." -
Ansel Adams**

But the quest continues and you will see that through the coming issues of this magazine. As the editor, I will work to curate the best of the photography world.

To quote Ralph Gibson, "the first question really is what to photograph. The next question is where to place the camera", here is to start of learning and unlearning, to being back to basics! May our search, our quest continue together!

Santshree Sinha
(santshree@basicsfoto.com)

NAVIN VATSA

Journey of an ace photographer: A 16-year long story!



A multiple award-winning street photographer from India, known for his storytelling imagery, Navin Vatsa is one of the most sought after personalities in the Indian Photography Community.

Navin Vatsa started his journey in photography with a simple point and shoot camera with the sole intention to capture family moments about 16 years back. But life's plans, a tragic loss and destiny brought him much closer to photography. Navin shares his beginnings and more about his journey, achievements and learnings, in an interview with BasicsFoto.

Basics: Please tell us about your beginnings and how did you start photography?

Navin: My journey and beginnings in photography has somewhat been unplanned, per se. I bought a point and shoot camera Kodak K-10 around 16 years ago, with the sole intention of capturing my family moments. But life had different plans for you, when you are busy with your own. After suffering a tragic loss of my wife to an accidental death in 2009, the loneliness and responsibilities towards my son as a single parent consumed every ounce of my soul and that is when photography came to me as a rescuing hand. My love for photography lingered on and that is when I engulfed into photography even more.

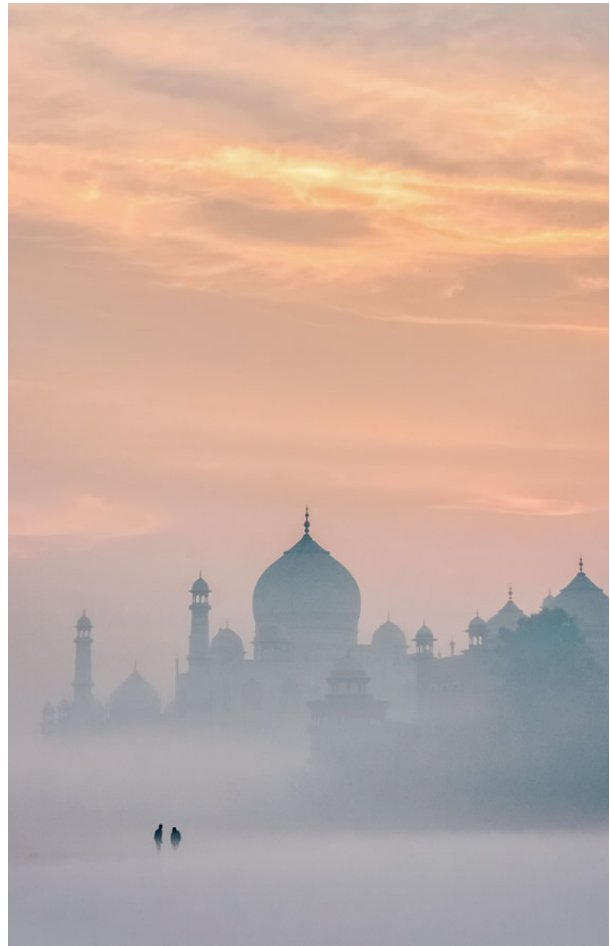
The loneliness and responsibilities towards my son as a single parent consumed every ounce of my soul and that is when photography came to me as a rescuing hand

Basics: Your works have been awe inspiring and a treat to eyes for everyone. Did you go through any formal training or was it all 'do-and-learn'?

Navin: I have not been through any formal training as such. It was all destined I must say. One day when I was flipping through the old family photos, I realised my calling and decided to leave my 16 years long teaching and administrative career. My experiences as an educator helped me find maturity to visualise and develop ideas and implement them through the medium of photography.

Basics: How would you describe your style of photography?

Navin: For me Photography is not about style, it's actually a thought process that take a shape through our compositions, either colour or black and white, and should have the capability to force our audience to read them for longer duration. With time it automatically becomes your Identity that other people call style.



“Reading and observations are key elements in photography that returns soulful moments”

Basics: We often have seen many of your photos from Humayun's Tomb and Yamuna Ghat in Delhi. Do you find it easier or you just love going to these locations?

Navin: Living in Delhi, there are many options to photograph and create images. I choose to visit places many a times before actually clicking photos there. Taking the example of Humayun's Tomb, I have been there many times and have returned with photographs just a few times. But that doesn't mean that the times when I couldn't get any frames went

waste. Reading and observations are key elements in photography that returns soulful moments when I find right situations with right elements. So these two places are very close to such observations. You can make good photographs only when you connect with your subjects well.

For me Photography is not about style, it's actually a thought process that take a shape through our compositions

Basics: What is your actual thought process while creating images?

Navin: I love to notice all those moments that are often overlooked. Observation is the primary key in photography that develop our patience to calm your mind in anticipation of some decisive moments that is probably going to happen. So I spent many days and many hours to places that I have observed and by reading the various activities, I try to imagine stories and finally I compose them when some defined situations occurs. During the process of making photographs some of the time moments are so spontaneous, that we don't have time to think and we just compose them in fraction of seconds and add our views later.



Photography is my meditation, my stress buster. It supported me when I needed it the most and it has become more or less the purpose of my life's meaning.

Basics: Please tell us about your achievements in the field of photography.

“Read more, observe more, do lot of research and enjoy the process. With time you will find your way”

Navin: I have been awarded and recognised by various International and National organisations of repute such as National Geographic, UNESCO, Sony World, Sony India, IPF2018,2020, Creative Image Magazine, and Camarena Academy (Best photographer of the year 2016 and awarded by Sir Raghu Rai for the same). I received the award of “Indian Photo of the Year 2018” by Sony India. In “SONY World Photography Award 2017” my photograph of Travel category got placed within the top 50 and exhibited at the prestigious Somerset House, London for 15 days. My 22 pages Artwork with the complete story “Marbles of Faith” on Jama Masjid and “Yamuna Ghat, Delhi” got published in Sept 2017 and in Jan 2018 and applauded nationally. I have recently

joined "National Geographic YourShot" as a Contributor in the year 2020 and has also been a mentor for TAMRON India since 2019. One of my major achievements was when I was declared one of the winners in HIPA 2019-20 under the theme “WATER”. I am also the finalist in MSPF, one of the prestigious platform for Street photographers globally.

BasicsFoto XHIBIT 2.0

A one-of-a-kind photography exhibition held in Calcutta!

We at BasicsFoto organised a stunningly curated photography exhibition named as XHIBIT 2.0 in the beautiful city of Calcutta from 17-19 December 2021.

The event was graced by the presence of noted photographers including Mrs. Jayati Saha (guest of honour for the inauguration) and Mr. Arka Dutta (guest of honour for the closing ceremony).

The exhibition saw a total of 100+ footfall in a span of 3 days and the reviews were quite uplifting. The walk-in viewers also loved the photographs exhibited.

A total of 25 photographers were selected by the BasicsFoto curation team which was then exhibited in the Gallery Gold in Calcutta.

Here are some of the snippets from the event:



Basics Events.



Upcoming Events

- **Back 2 Basics Workshops:**

We at BasicsFoto have teamed up with some of the best photographers from across India for a series of workshops spread across different locations around the country.

This will help the budding and aspiring photographers in learning the craft from the best in the business.

The dates for the workshops are to be decided, however it will begin by the second week of February 2022.

These experiential workshops will include in class theoretical trainings, on the field photowalks and workshops, discussions and more!

- **Mathura/Vrindavan Holi Photo Tour:**

We at BasicsFoto will be coming back with the photo tours this year, starting off with a Holi Photo Tour, where we left off before the pandemic happened under our new brand name for tours that is, Basics Escapes!

A week long experiential and fully guided tour designed and managed by the creators, for the creators. Meet like minded people who are in the quest to create something awesome and discover yourself while at it!

Escape to Mathura and Vrindavan and experience holi vibes like never before!

Stay tuned for all the details, dates and more on our social media @basicsfoto!

Street Photography

A walkthrough guide by Ashish Patel



Photo By Navin Vatsa

Street Photography is a genre touched by everyone; be it a wedding photographer or a fashion one. But getting on-board and making street photography your only genre requires 20% of passion and 80% of efforts.

Starting street photography is no easy task. For an average photographer, going from shooting flowers to capturing people on the streets is not a cakewalk. It is for sure, intimidating at first. But, once you try it, it feels quite exhilarating and content.

Here are some pointers on the most asked questions about Street Photography and Mr. Ashish Patel, a known face in the scene sharing his own experience.

Q. What were the normal difficulties you encountered first starting street photography?



Photo By Animesh Dutta

As a street photographer, you're forced to break some social norms by getting up-close and personal with your subjects so as to get the best out of the limited time you have got for framing a particular shot and before it vanishes. Observation is the key.

It's always about blending into the environment and not hampering the normal course of actions around you.

I worry too much about what people think. And this is the usual case with anyone who is just starting out. As a street photographer, you're forced to break some social norms by getting up-close and personal with your subjects, standing and photographing strangers, and not asking permission at times. You need to be a part of their normal life so that they are at ease.

Q. What is better when you are out shooting - instinctual versus planned?

There is no concept in my mind as to what I want to shoot when I go out on the streets. I just keep in my mind that I have to keep my photos candid and raw. It's simple; the more you shoot on the streets, the more experience you get. From my personal experience, I can say that you will build the right sense for the right moment. You will start seeing things before they will happen.

Q. How can beginners train themselves to observe such beauty in the daily mundane stuff?

It's all about your eye and observation. In street photography, there is only one thing which is really relevant. You have to see things before you can capture them. No matter what camera you are using, first, you have to see what is going on and you have to realise what is happening next and then only you can essentially compose the photo.

“It is more important to click with people than to click the shutter.” – Alfred Eisenstaedt

have not seen you with the camera. A disadvantage for this might be that they will not look into your camera. I normally prefer when people look into my camera as this gives a certain connection; it's a way of communication with the person on the street and I, the photographer. There are situations when this look is not necessary and when it's perfectly fine. It all comes down to doing the same thing again and again, until it is normal for you.

Q. How to get rid of fear on streets?

You can capture street shots only when people don't take any notice of you that is, you need to blend into the environment. This might be the best way in order not to influence their reaction. People would react as they normally do and as if they



Photo By Dheeraj Dman

It's all about your eye and observation. In street photography, there is only one thing which is really relevant.



Photo By Ashish Patel

Q. What are your thoughts and feelings about shooting individually (versus shooting with a friend or small group of friends) when out on the streets?

Some friends, we may go out together but when we reach a spot we go our separate ways. Shooting is an individual activity. It's ok to go in a group but when the shooting starts it needs to be alone. I believe, when we go alone we are free to do/try different things.



There is no concept in my mind as to what I want to shoot when I go out on the streets. I just keep in my mind that I have to keep my photos candid and raw. It's simple; the more you shoot on the streets, the more experience you get.

“Starting street photography is no easy task. For the average photographer, going from shooting flowers to capturing people on the streets is not easy.”

Q. What are some tips/advice you would give to yourself if you started street photography all over again?

I would tell myself not to be afraid. When I started out, I think pretty much like everyone, I was afraid to go close to people, afraid of their reactions. I would tell myself that there is nothing to be afraid of. Have fun, smile a lot, talk to people.

Q. Your advice for the people just starting out in street photography?

Photography has always been a part of my journey, Although its meaning kept changing in my life. During school, it was the capturing memories phase. I used to click pictures of my friends and also self-portraits to keep with me as a memory. Starting street photography is no easy task. For the average photographer, going from shooting flowers to capturing people on the streets is not easy. It is intimidating at first, but quite exhilarating once you try it out. Shoot as much as you can and enjoy the process.

New Cameras/2022

Best cameras for all budget and requirements!

Welcome to our in-depth guide to the best cameras for photography in 2022. It's been another huge year for new cameras, with some excellent arrivals from Sony, Nikon, Canon and Fujifilm. We've gathered the very best of them, along with some modern classics.

Every camera in this guide has been tested thoroughly in a variety of real-world settings to make sure it deserves to be in our list. You won't just find flagships in here, either – we also have the best budget mirrorless cameras, beginner-friendly DSLRs and affordable instant cameras, too.



What's the best camera for photography in 2022? While this depends a lot on your preferred shooting style, we reckon the Fujifilm X-T4 is the best choice for most people. It might not be a full-frame camera, but that means it can also offer the most compelling blend of size, features and value around. Still, there are definitely some great alternatives out there.

Got your heart set on a full-frame camera? We think the Canon EOS R5 and Canon EOS R6 are both superb choices. The mirrorless cameras have a growing range of excellent RF lenses and are packed with useful features, including in-body image stabilisation and superb autofocus. If you're mainly shooting fast action or everyday subjects, we'd say the EOS R6 edges it due to its 12fps burst shooting and lower price.

Not sure where to start? Check out our guide on what you should look for when buying a camera at the end of this page for helpful pointers on buying a camera for photography.

FUJIFILM XT-4



It isn't a full-frame camera, but the Fujifilm X-T4 is the best APS-C camera we've ever tested – and right now, it offers the best blend of features, size and value for most photographers. The X-T4 builds on the [Fujifilm X-T3](#)'s impressive foundation by adding in-body image stabilization (IBIS), faster burst shooting and some successful design tweaks. Adding to its all-rounder skills are a bigger battery (which keeps it going for 500 shots per charge) and some improved autofocus, which is fast

and reliable in most scenarios.

The X-T4's 26MP APS-C sensor remains class-leading for stills photography, but the X-T4 is also a superb video camera. The IBIS is a big bonus here, and the X-T4 backs that up with a huge range of tools and a great shooting experience, including a fully articulating touchscreen. It might cost the same as many full-frame cameras, but the X-T4 and its fine range of X-series lenses make a great, smaller alternative for those looking for a mirrorless all-rounder.

CANON EOS R5



While the Canon EOS R5 is overkill for most people, the EOS R6 is a more affordable full-frame alternative that is simply one of the best cameras for photography around today. If you already own one of Canon's early mirrorless full-framers like the EOS R, or any of its DSLRs, this is a more than worthy upgrade. The EOS R6 brings best-in-class autofocus, a superb in-body image

stabilization system, and burst shooting powers that mark it out as a very fine camera for wildlife or sports photography.

Despite its ability to shoot 4K/60p video, the EOS R6 lacks options like the ability to DCI 4K and has overheating limitations compared to video-focused rivals like the Sony A7S III, making it better suited to stills photographers. But for photography, it's an excellent (if pricey) option that delivers hugely impressive autofocus, handling and features that make it one of the best options around for anyone who needs a full-frame camera.

NIKON Z6 II



The Nikon Z6 reigned as the king of this list for a long time – and while the Z6 II is only a modest successor, it should definitely be on the shortlist of anyone who's looking for a full-frame camera. The Z6 continues to offer great value, but we think the Z6 II is just about worth the extra cost if you can afford it.

Its additional Expeed 6 processor brings a host of improvements, including new 14fps burst mode (up from 12fps on the Z6) and some handy autofocus boosts (particularly for animal eye/face detection). You also get an extra UHS-II card slot, which joins the existing XQD/CFexpress slot, and a firmware update has delivered a new 4K/60p video mode. The 24MP full-frame BSI CMOS sensor performs well at high ISOs, and the Z6 II has class-leading build quality that feels more substantial in the hand than its rivals.

SONY ALPHA A7R IV



Landscape photographers often demand megapixels, dynamic range and weather-proofing – and the Sony A7R IV ticks all of those boxes in style. Its 61MP sensor delivers incredible detail, and you can bump up that resolution with its Pixel Shift mode. Not that it's only comfortable shooting spectacular scenery – you also get Sony's excellent Face and Eye AF tracking for human subjects.

A deep grip makes the A7R IV comfortable to use during long days out in the field, while the weather-sealing is a big step up from the A7R III. You also get a bright, sharp 5.76 million-dot electronic viewfinder, although the touchscreen controls are a bit more limited than more recent Sony cameras like the A7S III. Still, this doesn't stop the A7R IV from being the most desirable in its class, and it even shoots decent video (albeit with some rolling shutter).

What should I look for when buying a camera for photography?

The main thing to look at when buying a camera is **sensor size**. Larger isn't always better, but it is a good guide to what kind of camera it is, how expensive the lenses will be, and who it's aimed at. In general, Micro Four Thirds and APS-C cameras are for both hobbyists and pros, while full-frame models tend to be strictly for advanced photographers with bigger budgets. Compact cameras with 1-inch sensors are for travel zooms and everyday photography.

Other features to look out for are **viewfinders** (electronic or optical), which are considered essential by most photographers, and **handling**. If you're likely to want to use longer lenses, then a good grip is essential. You should also consider which **lenses** you're likely to need for your favorite types of photography – for example, bright prime lenses are better for portraits and street shooting, while wide-angle zooms are more useful for landscapes. Deciding which camera system, including lenses, is the best for you is often better than choosing a camera in isolation.

(This article has been sourced from TechRadar)

Colours of India

A beautifully curated submissions from across India.

Hey Reader!

We at BasicsFoto are proud to present to you BasicsWall!

Basics Wall is the editor's brainchild so as to provide a generous platform to the budding artists and the seasoned photographers alike, to showcase their art and get the much deserved recognition in return.

This issue of magazine has 25 photographers from across the country with their stunning entries to the Basics Wall, curated by Team Basics. We also have certain overseas entries and we have decided to include those beautiful photos in the Basics Wall as well.

We hope you enjoy the below showcased photographs!



Prem Ranjan



Subhasish Bodhak



Aman Singh



Sunil Chuadhary



Viraj Dhole



Harsh Pandey



Dibakar Roy



Sara Goli



Dheeraj Dman



Triyash Dewangan



Riya Das



Esmat Noori



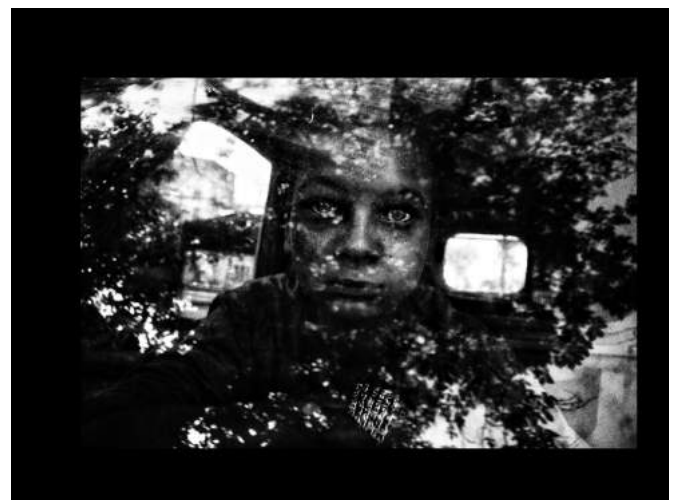
Navonil Saha



Ritam Nath



Shashank Kanujia



Ritankar



Ali Zholghadri



Ronit Raina



Soham Banerjee



Akshay



Abhay Patel



Nilabhra Chaudhary



Ashish Patel



Ritik Sinha



Probal Banerjee



Anustup Roy

The entries for the next issue of BasicsWall are open and you can send your entries to support@basicsfoto.com with the subject 'Subimssions for #BasicsWall'

BasicsFoto Team

Santshree Sinha

Anshi Akanksha

Animesh Dutta

Anustup Roy

Somya Tewari

Shreshtha Ranjan

Surya Prakash Rana

Abhijeet Deb