

FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA<sup>®</sup>

JOHN MATTSON

*STREET SHOTS – WALKING SAN ANTONIO*

Curated by Michael Mehl

2020 SAFOTO Web Galleries Monograph

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*Street Shots – Walking San Antonio*

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John Mattson received a BA and MA degree in studio art from Humboldt State University, Arcata, California and an MFA degree in painting from Mills College in Oakland, California. Over the years he has worked in a variety of capacities ranging from industrial painting in the lumber mills of Northern California, to working in commercial galleries including Andrew Smith Gallery and AOI Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He and his wife Karen lived in San Angelo TX for nearly fifteen years where Mattson was adjunct lecturer at Angelo State University and also worked part time at the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts as Museum Preparator. He and Karen relocated to San Antonio in 2014. Mattson's photography celebrates the ironic, the whimsical and the beauty of the mundane. He has shown his photographs in a number of regional Texas museums and most recently at the Gallery at Musical Bridges Around the World.

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After receiving my MFA degree in painting in 1978, I had grown tired of asking photographer friends to document my work and bought a camera and a cheap tripod, and started taking slides of my work. I then became enamored with the camera itself and began wandering around my town of Arcata, California, shooting whatever caught my eye. I had no visual agenda or intellectual themes in mind but quickly realized I was most drawn to abstract compositions found on building walls and the quirky, sometimes humorous, sometimes poignant, juxtapositions of random human arrangements found in neighborhoods and business areas. My process has never changed. I see photography as an exercise in looking really hard to discover unexpected images just below the surface in plain sight.

John Mattson

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*North Flores Street, June 30, 2018*



*Clark Avenue, June 10, 2017*



*Pleasanton Road, November 6, 2016*



*North St. Mary's Street, March 23, 2017*



*South Flores Street, April 21, 2019*



*Clark Avenue, October 12, 2016*





*Rigsby Avenue, June 13, 2017*



*Zarzamora Street, June 16, 2019*



*Adelphia Avenue, January 25, 2016*



*South Hackberry Street, November 23, 2018*



*Topeka Boulevard, April 11, 2020*



*Kirkpatrick Street, November 4, 2018*

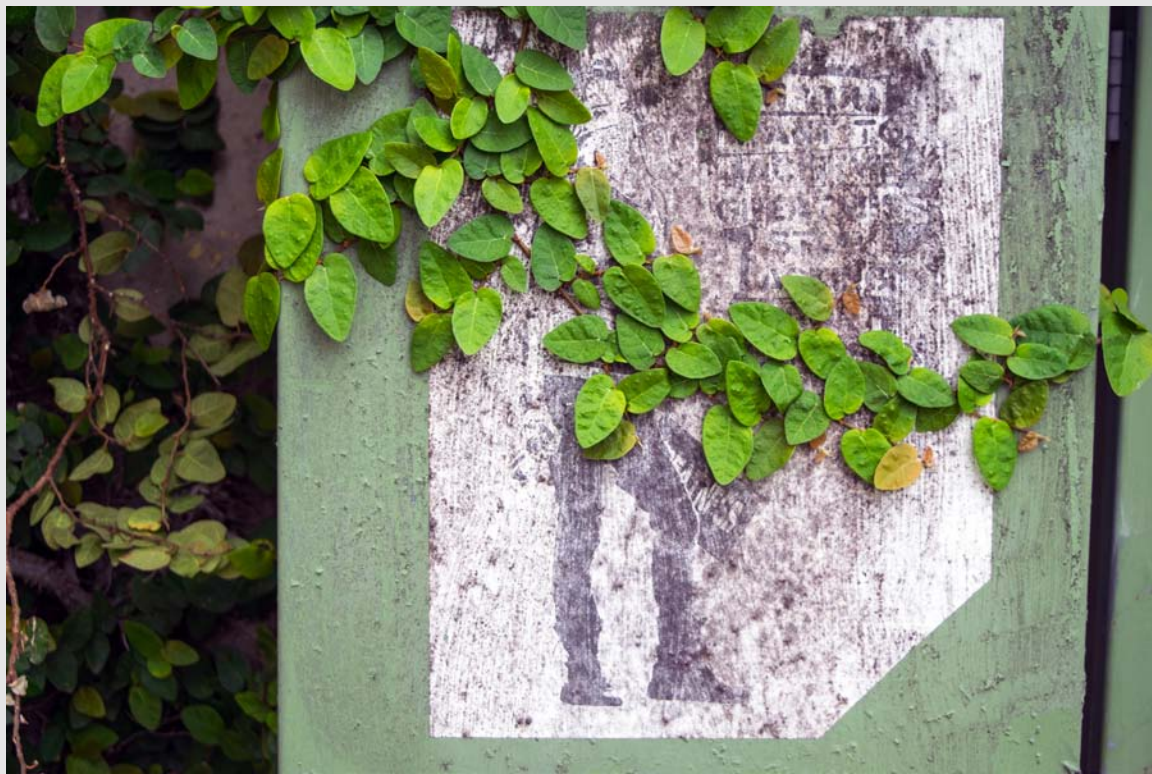


*Mitchell Street, February 15, 2016*



*Zarzamora Street, June 9, 2019*





*West Evergreen Street, March 29, 2019*



*Broadway, February 13, 2016*



*Fredericksburg Road, March 18, 2019*



*South Brazos Street, April 23, 2016*



*Carolina Street, December 16, 2018*



*Steves Avenue, April 5, 2020*

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