

## Biography

Len Bernstein is a photographer and art educator who has lectured and conducted workshops and portfolio reviews in museums and universities. He also taught in New York City high schools under a grant from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs. His images are in many private and public collections, including The Baltimore Museum of Art, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, and Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris. His articles—published in the US and abroad—are informed by a careful study of the medium, and Aesthetic Realism, the philosophy founded by Eli Siegel. His book, *Photography, Life, and the Opposites*, with a foreword by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Dr. Robert Coles, is based on this Aesthetic Realism principle: “All beauty is a making one of opposites, and the making one of opposites is what we are going after in ourselves.” Working with digital and film formats, Bernstein sees the photographic image as a precious object and as a democratic blueprint for how people hope to see the world they are meeting every day.

## Public Lectures and Workshops

Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Tampa  
Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Canada  
Newport Art Museum, Rhode Island  
South Street Seaport Museum, New York  
International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy, New York  
Florida Art Education Association, Naples  
The University of Northampton, England  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of Sydney, Australia  
Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Oahu  
New York Institute of Technology, New York  
Manhattan School of Music, New York  
New York State Art Teachers Association, New York  
New York City Art Teachers Association, New York  
International Association of Empirical Aesthetics, Illinois  
Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, Nevada  
Duquesne University, Pennsylvania  
Creative Arts Workshop, Connecticut  
Brooklyn Camera Club, New York  
The Urban Assembly School of Business for Young Women, New York  
The Urban Assembly New York Harbor School, New York  
High School of Art and Design, New York  
Norman Thomas High School, New York  
Edward R. Murrow High School, New York  
Queens Library, New York  
Sullivan County Community College, New York

## Photography Seminars - Aesthetic Realism Foundation, New York

Edward Weston: the art way of seeing and the pride we are looking for	
Henri Cartier-Bresson: a man's urgent question—How can I be both critical and kind?	
W. Eugene Smith: Man—scornful and praising	Jacob Riis: What do the world and people deserve?
Alfred Stieglitz: Self-expression as justice	Ansel Adams: Art stands for our greatest ambition
Robert Capa: Courage in photography and in life	Gordon Parks: What is a man's greatest victory?

## Public Collections

The Brooklyn Museum, New York	Museum of the City of New York, New York
The New York Public Library, New York	The Library of Congress, Washington, DC
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Missouri	The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
The Baltimore Museum of Art, Maryland	Portland Art Museum, Oregon
Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Tampa	Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris, France
MoCA Modern Contemporary Art Cultural Association, Venice, Italy	

## Articles

- 2001 "What Do the World and People Deserve? Jacob Riis, Photographer" (*Photographica World - The Journal of the Photographic Collectors Club of Great Britain*)
- 2001 "The Inspired State of Mind" (*Metered Reading* - September)
- 2001 "Candid Photography and the Meaning of 'Real-Life'" (*Apogee Photo Magazine*)
- 2003 "Photography" (*lichen: a literary journal* - Vol. 5/Spring)
- 2003 "Portraiture: the Pleasure of Knowing People" (*Journal of the Print World* - Vol. 26/Winter)
- 2003 "Acclaimed Teacher Inspires Students" (*New York State English Council Annual Conference Book*)
- 2010 "People on an Escalator Share a Dream" (*The Birmingham Times; Tennessee Tribune; The Philadelphia Sunday Sun; La Vida News of Houston; African Herald Express*)
- 2010 "The Cause of Hazing and How It Can End" (*The Birmingham Times, The Philadelphia Bulletin; Tennessee Tribune*)
- 2011 "What Does It Mean to Have a Beautiful Way of Seeing?" (*The Tennessee Tribune* – Vol. 22; *The Philadelphia Sunday Sun; The Birmingham Times; Sullivan County Democrat*)
- 2016 "The Art of Portraiture and How Should We See People?" (*Flatbush Jewish Journal*)
- 2017 "Black & White: A Poem with Photographs" (*Journal of the Print World* - Vol. 41/April)

## Reviews

- 1999 "Three Photographers at the Terrain Gallery" by Alma Vincent (*The Villager* – Vol. 69; *The New Voice of New York* – Vol. 41; *Caribbean Life*)
- 2000 "Three Photographers at the Terrain Gallery" by Alma Vincent (*Journal of the Print World* – Vol. 23/Winter)
- 2003 "Gazing into the mystery of photography" by Ted Waddell, exhibition review and interview with Len Bernstein (*Sullivan County Democrat* – Vol. CXII, No. 53)
- 2007 "Emotion — in Black & White and Color" by Len Bernstein (*Journal of the Print World* – Vol. 30/Summer)
- 2013 Review of "Photography, Life, and the Opposites" by Harvey Spears (*Journal of the Print World* – Vol. 36/April)
- 2013 First Look at New Books, April 12, 2013: "Photography, Life, and the Opposites" by Raymond Bial (*Library Journal*)
- 2014 "Len Bernstein: Photography Beyond the Surface" by Frank Rizzo (*The Sullivan County Democrat* – Vol. CXXIII, No. 65)

## One Person Exhibitions

- 1998 "Proud Moments," Pleiades Gallery, New York
- 1999 Museum of the Hebrew Home at Riverdale, New York
- 2000 "The Wonder of the Everyday," Pleiades Gallery, New York
- 2007 University of Northampton, Northampton, England
- 2013 Terrain Gallery, New York
- 2019 Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Tampa

## Group Exhibitions

- 1984 – 85: Traveling exhibition sponsored by Art Against Apartheid
- 1985: "Is Beauty the Making One of Opposites? - Intersection 85," Terrain Gallery, New York
- 1992: "Recent Acquisitions: Photography," The New York Public Library, New York
- 1998: "One World: Eight Points-of-View," Pleiades Gallery, New York
- 1999: "Three Photographers," Terrain Gallery, New York
- 2000: "Terrain Gallery 45th Anniversary Exhibition," Terrain Gallery, New York
- 2001: "Dressing for a New York City Childhood," Museum of the City of New York, New York
- 2003: "Photography: In Black and White," New York Law School, New York
- 2003: "The Surprising and Abiding Opposites," Terrain Gallery, New York
- 2004: "Photography: In Black and White," New York Mercantile Exchange, New York
- 2007: "Emotion—in Black & White and Color," Terrain Gallery, New York
- 2010: "Childhood: An International Photo Exhibition," Dougherty Art Center, Texas
- 2011: "The Chelsea International Fine Art Competition Exhibition," Agora Gallery, New York
- 2014: "Arte Laguna International Exhibition," Arsenale Venice, Italy
- 2015: "Virtual Exhibition," The Baker Museum, Naples, Florida
- 2019: Salmagundi Club, New York
- 2023: "Icons of Black & White," Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Tampa