



# WILDFOTO

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY | CORPORATE MEDIA | COMMUNICATIONS

PhotoMail is an occasional picture newsletter for those with an interest in photography, nature and the environment, travel, Africa, Zambia, African life and happening things. And especially for those who just like looking at pictures.

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 PhotoMail is available for free subscription by emailing me at [wildfoto@wildfotoafrica.com](mailto:wildfoto@wildfotoafrica.com)

## The Story Behind the Pictures: A TALE OF FOUR CITIES - STREETS OF BERLIN 1

In this PhotoMail, some impressions of the character (and characters) of Berlin, as shown by life and scenes on the city's streets. Included are some more photography tips on how to get better shots, whether your camera is the latest pro blockbuster or a simple point-and-shoot.



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin Leica M Summitlux 50mm/f1.4 ASPH (all shots)

*Photo tip: I think this photographer was doing it just right. She had seen her picture, taken her camera position, framed the likely shot, and was just waiting, unnoticed and anonymous, ready for that extra something that will make the shot. Then raise the camera and capture the instant.*



Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

*Photo tip: The same technique here. See the shot, frame it and wait for your subject to come along.*



America at Checkpoint Charlie, Berlin

Probably the most visited spot in Berlin. To stop emigration from the Eastern (communist) bloc to the West, East Germany (GDR) collaborated with the Soviet Union to build the Berlin Wall. The wall was built as from 1961 and it was designated the official crossing point between East and West Berlin for foreigners and Allied Forces members. It was the site of the 1961 'Berlin Crisis' when American and Soviet tanks faced-off against each other. The Berlin Wall became an infamous barrier aimed at stopping escape from the Soviet-controlled communist East to the 'free' West. After the wall was opened in 1989 and Germany reunified in 1990, Checkpoint Charlie became a major tourist attraction. It is the site of the Mauermuseum (Wall Museum), which is both a fascinating record of Berlin's turbulent history and a remarkable testament to the courage and resilience of Berlin's people.

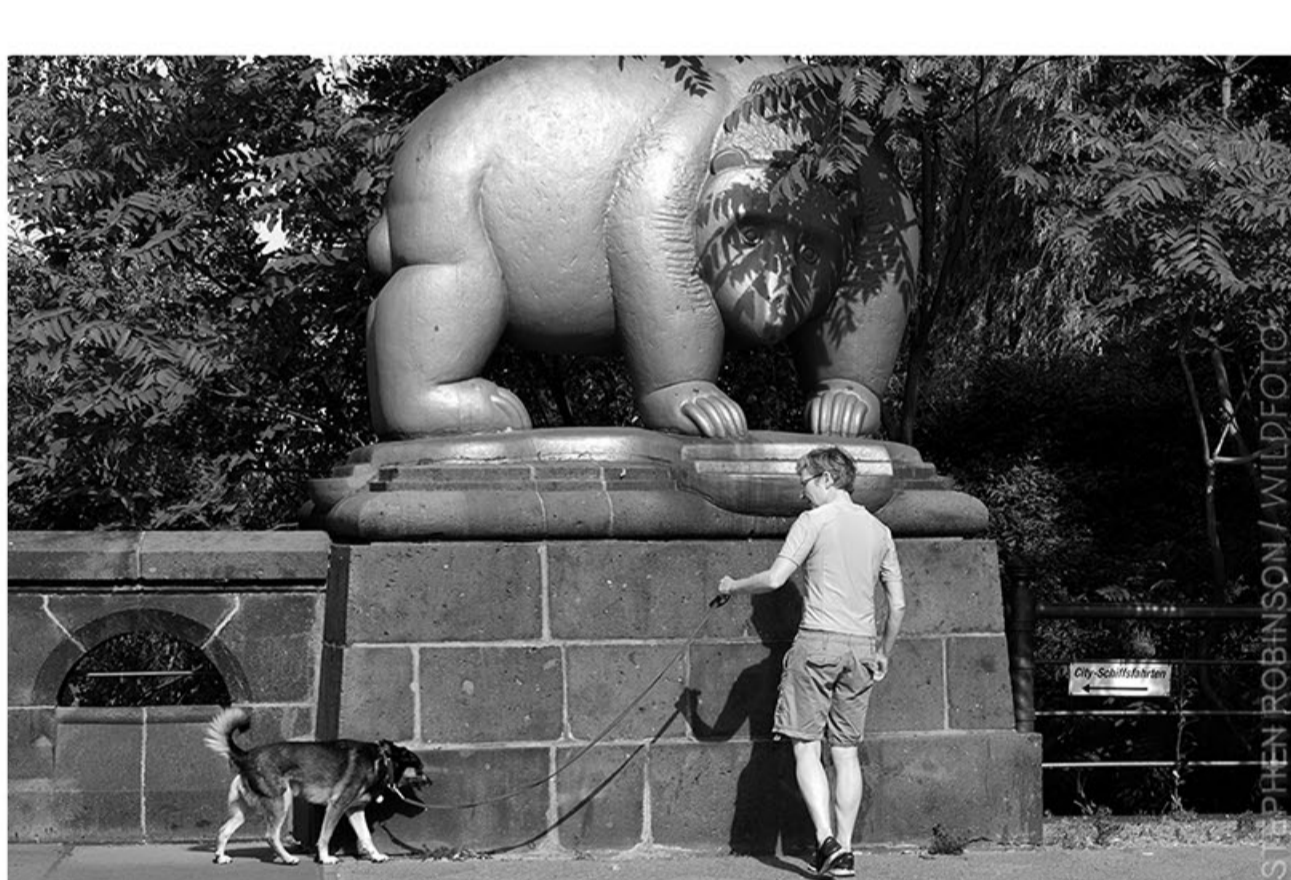


Street Portrait, Berlin

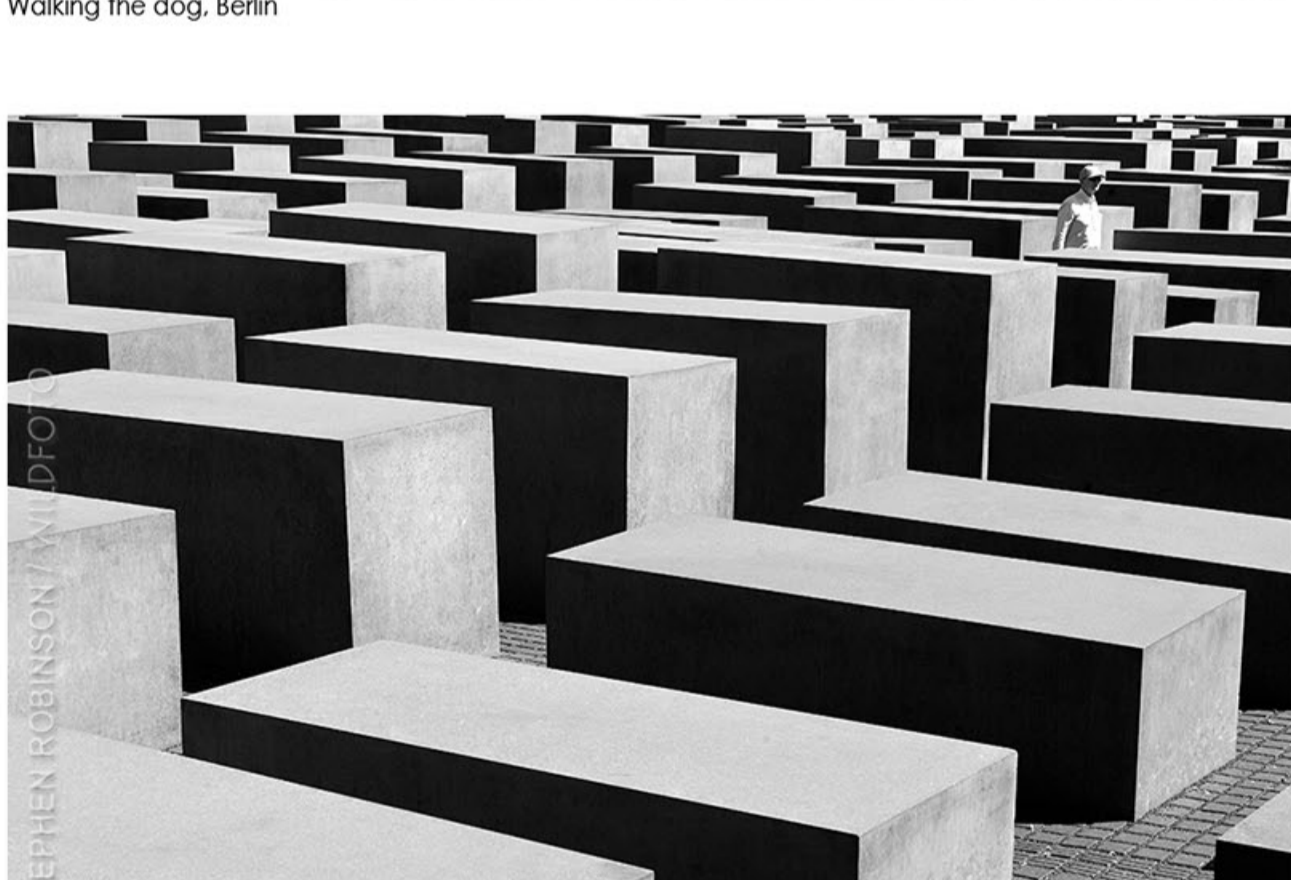


Konzerthaus, Berlin

*Photo tip: Another example of the technique described above. Having 'seen' the potential picture, waiting pays off when some suitable subject matter comes along.*



Walking the dog, Berlin



The Holocaust Memorial, Berlin.

The Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe. A powerful and uneasy memorial to the six million Jews in Europe murdered by Hitler's Nazi regime during World War II. It consists of 2,711 grey concrete blocks (or "stelae") laid out in an area of 19,000 sq m in central Berlin. Each block is just 95cm distant from its neighbour, such that you walk between them alone. This large scale sculpture, by architect Peter Eisenman, was intended to create "an uneasy and confusing atmosphere aimed at representing a supposedly ordered system that has lost touch with human reason".



At the Philharmonie, Berlin

Berlin is very much of the centre of the Arts in Europe, and the Philharmonie is the city's principal concert hall centre. This is the Spanish chamber music group 'Al Ayre Espanol', which specialises in Spanish orchestral and choral works of the baroque period. They play with some real Latin fire.  
*Photo tip: It's just not the done thing to click away with a camera and disturb others during a concert performance (unless you want to get thrown out). So this shot was done during an encore piece, and that's when the players seem to relax and enjoy themselves most. Even then, a very quiet, unobtrusive camera is best.*

### PHOTOGRAPHER FOR HIRE

Stephen Robinson is a photographer operating from his Zambia base. He undertakes photo assignment work in the corporate, industrial, mining, donor-aid project and environmental fields, including the production of photo based communications, advertising and promotional media.

This commercial work supports his nature landscape, environment, conservation and wildlife work - and including his well-known panoramic photography project and exhibitions on the remote landscape, peoples and environment of Zambia.

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Three bikes, Berlin

### NEXT PhotoMail ISSUE

More impressions from these four big cities, and the stories behind the pictures

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