

AN AFTER-
-NOON
WALK

ISSUE 00

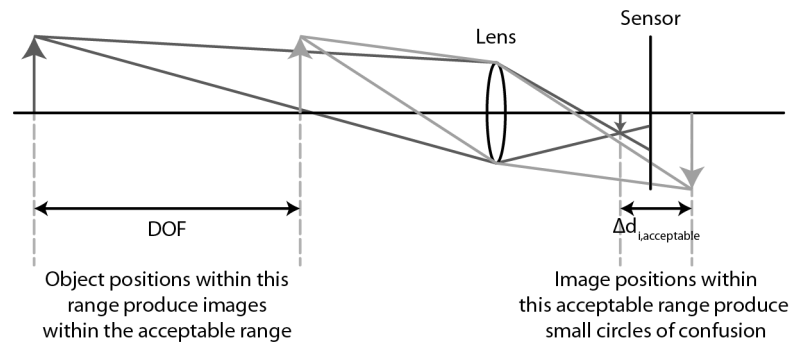
TIAN LENG



dad borrowed this photo,
he won a prize
in a national
photography contest

When I brought my camera and a Sigma Art zoom lens back to Changzhou, the idea of distance and objectivity came to my head.

The first thought was purely technical: it's the equation between focal length, sensor size, aperture, and depth of field.





A normal lens, for example a 50mm lens, is considered to have the similar view as human eyes, but it does not necessarily share a similar visual experience in term of objectivity.

@ People's Park

↙ the new part

↘ the old part



Nowadays, digital cameras have become more available and affordable to consumers. The speed of auto-focusing and high frame rates on many DSLRs and mirrorless cameras have impressed us in the second decade of the 21st century. Smartphones with high-resolution camera units also significantly extend the population of street photographers. Unlike a manual-focus film camera, these cameras have reduced the time of focusing and metering down to 0.01s or less, and they are highly portable. Therefore, a street photographer with a modern DSLR or a smartphone is able to quickly find a spot and take a snap. The question is how he finds the spot and takes the snap.





My friend who works for the New York Times used to share me with a useful tip: use a prime lens. When the variable of the focal length is fixed, it is easy to move around to find the right *distance*, *angle*, *composition*, *balance*, and *directionality*. It's also easier to obtain a sense of uniformity within a series of photos capture by a single prime lens. I agree with him. The experience of shooting with large-format cameras always fascinates me and I enjoy the process of slowly developing the connection between me and the object. While zoom lenses, such as my Sigma Art 18-35 mm, could possibly make a non-professional photographer "lazy". They are perfect tools for a photojournalist to cover an event, where his position and movement might be very limited.



I always
worried about
electric bikes,

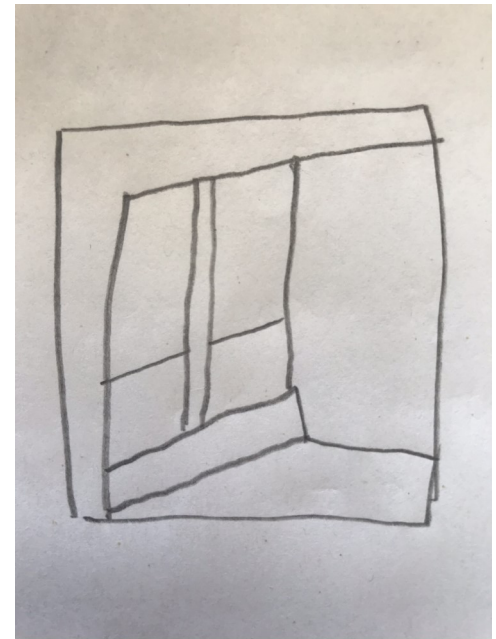
What happen if
a bike's battery
runs out ?

How far
is home ?



A space, a city or the countryside, has its unique distance between the human beings living within it. For Changzhou, the distance is fairly small. People cluster. While the suburbs usually have larger distances, and I would be able to capture more surroundings. For city centers, I would like to move closer to the objects to capture the main object in the middle of the crowd. But it depends...because a faithful interpretation is sometimes more than what I see; it is my understanding of the relationship between all the elements within the frame.





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