

*JAY MAISEL*

LIGHT

*GESTURE*

& COLOR

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Backlit Child

# Background Could Be Better

This was shot at the Roma Termini train station. I'd done a bunch of pictures of this guy and I'm quite happy with the light and the gesture on this.

There's one thing I screwed up on and that's the background. If I had closed down more, I would have been able to show the train schedule in back of him quite clearly and would have shown this environment that spoke of his job as a conductor.

When I wrote this, I checked the metadata and saw that I did shoot it at f/13. I should have been at f/22.

Well, yeah, sometimes it is about the f-stop.





Conductor Lit from Below

# Not Enough Lens to Get Closer

This is another image where I couldn't get any closer. I was at 300mm and as close as I dared to get without disturbing the kid.

This is cropped also.

I had red stripes in back of her. I cropped them out.

The red stripes were a nice play against her face, but her face, I thought, was wonderful and didn't need the competition.



Child, Top-Lit, Soft Overhead Light

# Look Around

Sometimes, when you're walking around waiting for inspiration, hoping to find something that will turn you on, you ought to look up or, in this case, down. You may find some surprises.

Try not to always shoot straight ahead.

Also, try not to always shoot from or at the height of your eyeballs.

“Where” is a very important consideration. It should not default to the easiest way possible. Explore all the possibilities: high, low, with the light, against the light. Don't be too accepting until you check out all the possibilities.