

## In the Moment

By Matt Willey, Art Director, *The New York Times Magazine*

The photography world often feels dominated by a concentration on and pursuit of a sort of cold, deeply uninteresting technical perfection. It's almost as if the quality of the execution of the image alone is enough to justify its existence. It can appear mannered and safe, a calculated approach that can dominate over anything that might be described as, for want of a better word, feeling.

Jack Davison seems able to sidestep a lot of that and get at something more immediate. Something more essential, visceral, unfiltered and often very beautiful. Something that feels like a moment. He takes risks, tries things out, pushes, follows a hunch or an instinct. And despite (and because of) an obvious and abundant prerequisite technical ability, he is unafraid of the wonderful uncertainty that comes from not being preoccupied with it. He's uninhibited by the idea, both in terms of technique and in terms of the history of photography, of what might be right or wrong, and is utterly concentrated on what interests him visually. *Rf*

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