
EATING WITH ONE CHOPSTICK

(A FOREIGNER'S ENCOUNTER WITH CHINA)

KEVIN JAMES LRPS 06.05.2020



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- A NOTE ABOUT EQUIPMENT - FOR TRIPS OF THIS SORT (not specifically for photography) I TAKE:-
 - FUJIFILM X-T2 + 4 batteries + cards + USB lead for charging
 - FUJIFILM 18mm f/2
 - FUJIFILM 35mm f/1.4
 - FUJIFILM 55 - 200mm f/3.5 - 4.8
 - FUJIFILM X-I00T (fixed lens, 23mm f/2) + 2 batteries + cards
 - iPhone 6s with Fujifilm Camera Remote and Snapseed (remember that access to Google, Instagram, etc requires a VPN) + USB lead and charger
 - Gorillapod
 - In a Loewe Slingshot bag
 - If I can't take anything else I take the XI00T with a spare battery and card
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- A NOTE ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY IN CHINA

- Don't photograph military personnel
 - It's quite likely that you will be approached by Chinese people for a photograph. Say yes! They will let you take one of them!
 - Even in the big cities foreigners are a curiosity
 - See Susan Sontag's book "On Photography" for an interesting view on the Chinese and their relationship with photography (dates from 1970s but things haven't changed much)
 - Beijing Silvermine (Thomas Sauvin) is an interesting project that uses found photographs to give an insight into China's recent past
 - The organisation Photography of China has a website featuring traditional and contemporary Chinese photography: <http://photographyofchina.com/authors> .
 - For 1980s see Adrian Bradshaw (who also has his own website) and Lu Nan (a little known, former Magnum photographer)
 - For today see Chen Man - internationally renowned fashion photographer and artist
 - For a quirky and unconventional view of historical events see Liu Silin (aka Celine Liu)
 - For something beautiful see Liu Yue
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- For Mao era see Marc Riboud
 - For contemporary see Chen Ronghui, Liu Bolin, (the late) Ren Hang, Rong Rong + Inri
 - Yan Wang Preston, a member of the RPS, also features
 - Teresa Eng is worth a look - she is a Canadian of Chinese descent, who explores what it means to be an “inside outsider” in China
 - AIRPORTS and FLYING
 - Security staff examined every major piece of my equipment at every airport
 - There are usually separate security queues for men and women (similarly staffed)
 - At most airports you have to wait for a period after security and check on a screen that you have not been called for a further, more detailed, baggage check
 - Airports are modern, staff are courteous, there is plenty to eat and drink, most cabin crew speak some English
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