WILLIAM ALBERT ALLARD 31 Years of Photos of Paris

or 31 years William Albert Allard has returned again and again to the City of Light in the true spirit of the flâneur, to wander the streets aimlessly, yet ever alert to moments he might capture in his camera. With superb colour perception, this masterful portraitist and long-time contributor to National Geographic magazine has returned from his strolls with images ranging from fashion models backstage, to a beautiful young café patron lost in thought, to bikini-clad sunbathers in a grassy park in the Marais or lying on the sand of man-made beaches along the Seine. As does a flâneur, Allard has often walked about Paris in pursuit of nothing specific but everything in general. He is known for his meticulous framing of the moment, all the many pieces of a visual puzzle falling gracefully into place. Allard claims he misses far more than he gets, but those he does capture are truly memorable pictures one can cherish, from a city that never stops offering more.



Cafe, Rue Des Grands Augustins, 1986







Metro, 2016



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Clock, Musée d'Orsay, Louvre in the background, 2013





Place Victor Hugo, 2014



"I've always been drawn to the edges of an event or a place, whether it's meandering the streets of a city neighbourhood, frequenting a visually beckoning cafe or bar, roaming the cavernous rooms of fine museums, or probing the wings and the backstages at music events or fashion shows; that's where I love to visually explore. Just about anywhere I go in search of pictures, I go serendipitously. And Paris is the most serendipitously generous city I've been fortunate to visit in my life."



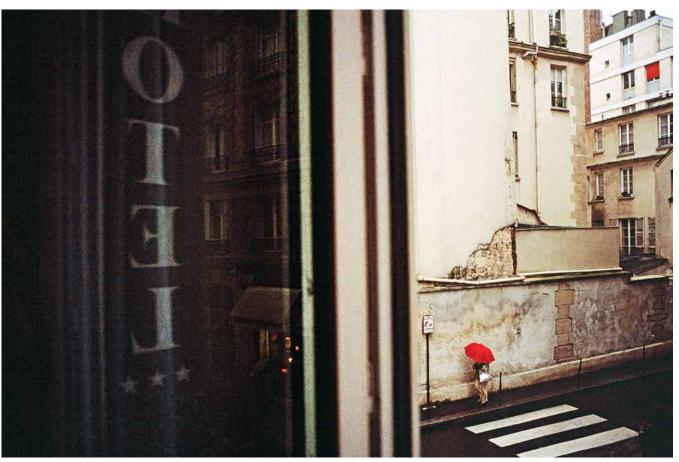
Place Saint-Michel, 2016

Rue Vielle du Temple, 2002

Boulevard Saint-Germain, 1988







Ile de la Cité, 2013

Rue Sainte Croix de la Bretonnerie, 2002



Rue de Rivoli, 2002



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Cosmos Galerie 56, Boulevard de la Tour-Maubourg 75007 Paris, France +33 1 47 05 44 29 www.cosmosphoto.com through October 30

> William Albert Allard PARIS—EYE OF THE FLÂNEUR Publisher: Edition Lammerhuber. Publish Date: Fall 2017 240 pages 119 photos German, English, French



WILLIAM ALBERT ALLARD PARIS

"For every picture I try to make in Paris, and I fail far more often than I succeed, I literally see hundreds that escape me for a myriad of reasons, often simply because I wasn't quick enough or sometimes bold enough...And I'm so grateful to have lived a life in which I have been blessed by being able to see so much. Paris offers perhaps too much. I fear one lifetime is not possibly adequate, at least not if one doesn't actually live there."

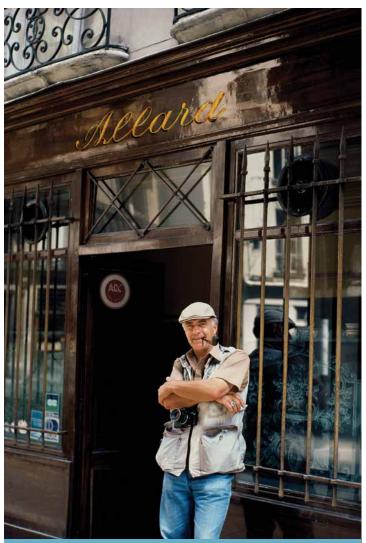
-William Albert Allard



Pont des Arts, 2013

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Rue Saint-André des Arts, 1986 © Ira Block

he American Master of Photography, William Albert Allard, is no stranger to *albemarle* Magazine, and he again fills our pages with his creative images. The depth and range of photography—31 years of covering France—exhibited on these pages are just a small sample from Allard's newest book, *William Albert Allard Paris*.

Allard worked for the *National Geographic* magazine for more than 50 years. As a pioneer of documentary color photography and an excellent portraitist, Allard has the reputation of having changed the appearance of *National Geographic*, through his intimate work on the American subcultures of the Amish of Pennsylvania and the Hutterites of Montana. Allard has previously published six critically acclaimed books. His first, *Vanishing Breed: Photographs and Writing About the American Cowboy*, published in 1981, was nominated for The American Book Award.

Always a traveler, Allard spends summer and early fall in Missoula, Montana, where he and his wife Ani, and their two dogs Buster and Lizzy, enjoy the beauty of the West. But Allard always returns to Earlysville, Albemarle County, where he and his family have made a home.

Allard is a former contributor to Magnum Photos, and his images are featured in many private and museum collections. www.williamalbertallard.com