Creating Visual Narratives Through Photography

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This book provides photographers with the foundation to craft more compelling photos from concept all the way through to creation and distribution, on the path to making a living.

Based on real-life practice and experience, former National Geographic and White House visual editor, Mike Davis, takes readers on a journey starting with addressing the motivation behind an image and how this determines the rest of the creative process. He goes on to articulate best technical practices to create the narrative through photo composition and what to do with your work after the photos are completed. Each section offers exercises for applied learning and a series of appendices cover assignments structures, a compilation of critical words and concepts, a comprehensive resource guide of organizations, competitions, grants, collectives and agencies, book publishers and printers and more.

This is an ideal resource for students and practitioners alike to gain a more informed understanding of photographic expression and learn how to effectively execute these visions.

Mike Davis is a visual consultant, editor, author, photographer and professor emeritus. A visual leader who has worked with hundreds of photographers independently and on multiple staffs, Mike taught visual storytelling courses at Syracuse University and directed The Alexia Grants. He was twice named picture editor of the year, has been on various workshop and review faculty. He has edited more than 40 books.

All photographs in this book were made by the author.