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NOTLondon

Focus on the Forgotten

Anthony Dawton

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- When photographer Anthony Dawton realised how dramatically homelessness had increased in London, he took to the streets with his camera
- He embarked on a new project to raise awareness: **NOTLondon**
- Includes an introduction by Leilani Fahra, former UN special Rapporteur on the Right to Housing and the Global Director of The Shift

When photographer Anthony Dawton realised how dramatically homelessness had increased in London, he took to the streets with his camera. For years, he had taken photographs in areas of need worldwide, but after spending some time in his home city, he noticed how many people were living on its streets. He embarked on a new project to raise awareness for a city he no longer recognised: ***NOTLondon***.

Anthony Dawton photographs his subjects with a beauty and dignity that many of them are often denied. His portraits capture the strength and power of humanity as well as its vulnerability. By accompanying the image with the person's name and their story, Anthony gives voice to the voiceless and attempts to offer the homeless a place, a home on the page. Governmental institutions turn a blind eye to the homeless, leaving the work up to charities. Homeless shelters are rife with substance abuse, making them a dangerous place for those trying to overcome addiction. Homelessness becomes a vicious cycle and many find it difficult to break free. Since the start of the pandemic, over 70,000 households in the UK have been made homeless. Dawton's photographs are mesmerising, and as we stare into the eyes of their subjects, we're faced with reality: this is a problem that's getting worse and needs urgent attention.

NOTLondon is a provoking campaign to help the city's most vulnerable and to address the fact that, despite its wealth, the city is not providing for those most in need. ***NOTLondon*** includes an introduction by Leilani Fahra, former UN special Rapporteur on the Right to Housing and the Global Director of The Shift. Having dedicated her life's work to changing attitudes to homelessness and attacking the governmental systems and structures which perpetrate homelessness, she shares her thoughts in***NOTLondon***, highlighting the importance of Dawton's project.

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