



This is Chicago

Luigi Bortoluzzi

Preface by Scott Turow

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- A photographic portrait of Chicago: the city center with its world-famous buildings and waterfronts, but also the outskirts of the city, the diverse people who inhabit it, and the Blues scene

A new photographic exploration of Chicago, a city which attracts the visitor with its profoundly American character. The book presents over 100 photographs shot in Chicago between 2006 and 2011, mainly in black and white. Several aspects of this diverse city are shown. Starting from the most celebrated downtown areas, where so many movies have been shot making them familiar to the entire world, to the suburbs and outskirts of the city, each with its own personality and charm. Page after page, empty streets mix with the most solemn of buildings and the waterfronts; people who work and live here meet other people who come from the Mid-West to check out unexpected urban landscapes. And then there are a number of photographs dedicated to the world of Blues, from the many clubs where the Blues are played and lived each night, to the Chicago Blues Festival, the great late Spring event attended by an extraordinary and multifarious public, who are as much a part of the scene as the artists on stage.

Luigi Bortoluzzi has been working with images since the 1970s. He graduated from the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome (Italy's National Film School) and then moved to Milan. His work has two main strands: the production of photographs, mainly women's portraits, for private collectors on one hand, and images aimed at a larger audience on the other hand. Linked to this latter area of work are the books *Truck's Noses* and *Autos de Cuba*, published by Gribaudo, and the exhibitions *European Urban Landscape* (Rome, Venice) and *'Imaginary Magazines'* (Modena) and the site-specific *'Belluno Oriental Summer: Photographs post Cold War'*. He shoots mainly in black and white with a 'rough', grainy style.

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