

## Alte Schönhauser Straße – Berlin

Young urban people capture my interest and catch my eye. In particular, I like those individuals that express their individuality through their appearance and their look. Their creativity and self-confidence is shown in how they mix different styles, which then naturally becomes their own style. I am enthusiastic about how endless their imagination is. In my eyes, their “way of being in the world” expresses an enormous inner freedom, a vast amount of courage, and self-determination. Regardless of gender, both women and men are creative in almost artistic ways. Of course, this aspect is one of the reasons why I am attracted to them: it touches my heart as an artist. I perceive those young people as if they were a painting or a sculpture. In the Alte Schönhauser Strasse, there are quite a few of them, who present themselves as an artwork alive.

I am not fixed to a certain type of person. My attention is caught nearly unconsciously. There is this short moment - almost love at first sight - when I see this particular individual. I like sensitive faces that express an open-minded attitude. These faces reveal the person's heartstrings and vulnerabilities, while I photograph them. It was my intention to capture these rare moments of authenticity, while I was taking portraits of young people in the Alte Schönhauser Strasse in urban Berlin.

Barbara Egin, October 2017