



SHANNON FAGAN

AGE	26
BORN	Macomb, Illinois
RESIDENCE	New York City
EDUCATION	University of Memphis
ASSISTED	Hugh Kretschmer, Jonathan Torgovnik
AWARDS	Honorable Mention, Silver Eye Center for Photography 2001 Fellowship; Honorable Mention, Photo Metro 18th Annual Competition; Excellence Award—Current Works 2000, Society for Contemporary Photography
CLIENTS	<i>The New York Times, Fortune, Smart Money, Paper</i>

■ So easy to overlook are the doormen of Manhattan, standing at attention on the sidelines of a teeming island. Shannon Fagan stopped to look, and talk, and look some more, and shoot these attendants, especially at those times when no one else is looking.

"It was not a day-in-the-life, but guys lost in thought, doing what they do in the in-between moments." With their knowledge, Fagan shot doormen through windows or door frames, the way most people see them, if at all: "through the corner of their eye."

Captured in their private reverie, the doormen convey a grand timelessness by gazing up toward heaven or, perhaps, at a few dust motes. Some evocative shots show only two feet perched on a counter or a silver-and-blue necktie knotted against white collar and brown skin. The three-month project included other workers, such as the produce salesman walled in by bulging stacks of receipts and orders.

An interest in subtlety focuses Fagan's eye. He likes the work of Vik Muniz, the artist "who photographs ordinary things in extraordinary ways." Along those lines, Fagan has been shooting used doctor's prescriptions for an art project. He plans on shooting more portraits, and to continue "blurring the line between documentary and portraiture."

—CHRISTOPHER D. RINGWALD



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