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JEFF MERMELSTEIN

From Helen Levitt to Garry Winogrand to Philip-Lorca diCorcia, the tradition of New York street photography has attracted the medium's best and brightest. It takes nerve to join their ranks these days, and Mermelstein has plenty of it. Working in color, he's made some of the slyest, funniest street pictures of the past twenty-five years, many of which are here: a woman with a ten-dollar bill clamped between her teeth, a feisty Chihuahua perched atop a stack of newspapers like the king of the jungle, a scorched and smoking work shoe in the middle of a sidewalk. The nine powerful pictures taken on September 11, 2001, prove that Mermelstein is a lot more than witty. Through June 10. (Kasher, 521 W. 23rd St. 212-966-3978.)