



Zone

System

David Smith

**Residential &
Commercial
Installations**

**WE
SPECIALIZE
WALL TO WALL**

**CARPET · TEX
CARPET SALE
469-8170
WALL TO WALL**



CARPET · TEX
WALL TO WALL CARPET SALE
469-8170
WE SPECIALIZE
Residential & Commercial Installations

NO PARKING
REQUIRED

Zone

System

David Smith

PREFACE

This book is about property, and entropy. To aficionados of traditional black and white film photography, 'Zone System' means a particular thing. For the purposes of this book, it means *other* things, namely:

1. how our world is systematically subdivided into private and 'public' (government-owned) properties; 2. signage, physical barriers and visual markers enforcing the uses said properties may be put to; and 3. *pictorial composition based on two- and three-dimensional, visual zones.*

Since I am primarily interested in photography as a tool for pictorial composition, as opposed to documentation, reportage, story-telling, performative technical prowess, etc., I will further elucidate some ideas regarding how this, admittedly idiosyncratic visual 'zone system' might work, and how I have come to apply it in photography.

A composition may be analysed as a series of zones: e.g., top and bottom, left and right, near and far – and/or arbitrary shapes formed from constituent elements. Perspective, scale, pattern, texture, tone, and colour can be orchestrated to provide a visual hierarchy to these elements, following well-established conventions developed by artists, artisans and designers over many millennia.

A proximate starting point being the famous cave paintings of bison and other prehistoric animals prized and feared by our forebears. These paintings demonstrate the earliest application of compositional tropes to introduce drama and animation to what would otherwise be straightforward, static depictions. Unbounded by the 2d framing favoured by ensuing generations for various practical reasons, they undulate in and out of shadows cast by torches on cave formations, closely mimicking the frightening and fantastical appearance of dangerous animals looming out of the darkness.

The nascent and instinctive transference of visual perspective, from memory to cave walls, reached its apotheosis in the Renaissance, with better tools and a reinvigorated commitment to spatial realism. It is no accident that an aid and driver of these developments was the refinement of the *camera obscura*!

The modern photograph is bounded by rectangular framing, and quite accurately and effortlessly records the perspective of a scene, along with many other details. This is at once an affordance, and defining limitation of what photography is. And what it affords is to establish the primacy of the point of view at the moment of picture taking.

It is true that photography has been also used as an intermediary artistic tool for any number of novelty visual expressions; these add little if anything to the vocabulary of what we have to come to understand as photography, and aren't my concern.

A clear and convincing visual hierarchy is essential to capture and hold the interest of a prospective audience for a given photograph (and every other visual expression, regardless of medium). To a considerable extent, a strong hierarchy may even eclipse any intrinsic importance (or lack thereof) of the *subject* to this audience.

The idea is to intrigue the viewer through unconventional manipulations – misdirection, if you will – of compositional elements. This is not in reference to studio photographs of e.g. portraits, still lifes, etc., or to physically re-arranging the scene! A scene may contain multiple, 'uninteresting' elements, the meta-subject is that the visual relationships of these elements *in situ* propose a more interesting meaning or mystery for the viewer. You may say that the photographer's job is to notice such relationships, and bring them to our attention.

I'm not interested in pictorial composition for its own sake; I'm interested in it as a means of expressing ideas, and not just visual ones. I leave it to the viewer to draw your own conclusions...



hen a social system is in a state of *anomie*, common values and meanings are no longer accepted, and new ones haven't emerged.

Under the condition of anomie, the individual “*aspires to everything and is satisfied with nothing.*”

In commercial sectors, where far-reaching economic goals are continually sought and “*greed is aroused without knowing where to find ultimate foothold,*” the lack of regulation over material desires becomes a constant state of anomie.*

*Sources: Encyclopedia Britannica, Wikipedia.

Quotes are from Durkheim, Émile. *Suicide*. New York: Free Press, 1951.



ANOTHER FINE PROJECT
COMPLETED BY



KASTEM
SECURITY SOLUTIONS

KASTEM
SECURITY SOLUTIONS
www.kastem.co
905.564.1231

Intrusion Alarms
CCTV
Security • Monitoring
Door Access Control
Construction Site Monitoring

My Network

www.kastem.co
905.564.1231
www.kastem.co



www.kastem.co
905.564.1231
www.kastem.co



www.kastem.co
905.564.1231
www.kastem.co







GO
ALES
KISS
0039
afu.com

YOU-GO
RENTALS & EQUIPMENT
1-800-762-0000
1-800-762-0001
www.you-go.com

NOTICE

ALL WORKERS
MUST ATTEND A
SITE ORIENTATION
BEFORE WORKING
ON THIS SITE

TUCKER HIRISE





GEORGE
VRETOS

O: 416-487-5191
C: 416-716-3811

www.georgevretos.ca

BANNERS
STORE SIGNS
VEHICLE WRAPS
BUSINESS CARDS

416.525.5850






















NEW URBAN TOWNHOMES

ea
STAT






W
S
1-
WW
For
Comp
for t
Do not



astral

of hamp Building a great city
together

**Road Resurfacing
Church Street**
Gloucester Street to Park Road

Start Date: March 2021
End Date: June 2021
Contract #: 2001970-0004

Call 617-635-7000

PUBLIC PARKING

GREENWICH STREET
200-250 FT. W. SIDE
DAILY 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
\$1.00 PER HOUR
\$5.00 PER DAY
\$10.00 PER WEEK
\$20.00 PER MONTH
\$30.00 PER QUARTER
\$40.00 PER HALF YEAR
\$50.00 PER YEAR







Edward St

DOWNTOWN

THE WORLD'S BEST

ZANZI

FIVE GUYS

STOP HERE ON RED LIGHT
YONGE STREET
CONSTRUCTION
COLLEGE ST TO GERRARD ST
NOVEMBER 21, 2019
TO AUGUST 29, 2021









ONTARIO
80-71442





SHISHA Pasha LOUNGE

SHISHA Pasha LOUNGE



Osmow's
MODERN MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

Osmow's
MODERN MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE



Cherry
Pie & Co.

Coco

BAKE ISLAMI

H&R BLOOM

**YOUR PEE
SHOULDN'T BE
RED EITHER.**

Blood in the urine is the most
warning sign of bladder cancer.
If you see red, see your doctor.

**BLADDER
CANCER
CANADA**

SeeRed.ca

A better world
starts at home.

INDULGE
IN
TORONTO'S
CULTURAL
HEART





COVENT GARDEN
MARKET
**PARKING
OPEN** ←













CANADIAN

ELECTRONICS . CELLPHONES .
BED BATH . HOME ESSENTIALS
GIFTWARE . CLOTHING . LUGGAGE

WE SELL

- Cellphones
- Laptops
- Tablets
- TVs
- Home Theater
- Bluetooth Speakers
- Cellphone Accessories
- Appliances
- Bed & Bath
- A.C. / Heaters
- Home Essentials
- Clothing
- Gaming Systems

LOONIE TOONIE

THE BIGGEST
DOLLAR STORE
IN GREEK TOWN

PARTY SUPPLIES

GREETING CARDS

PICTURE FRAMES

GLASSWARE

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

KITCHEN WARES

LINEN ITEMS

SEASONAL ITEMS

STATIONARY

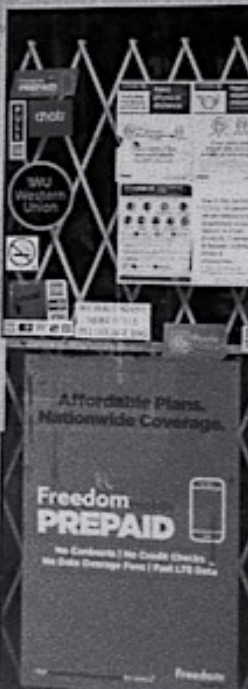
HARDWARE

HEALTH & BEAUTY

ELECTRONICS

AND LOT MORE

644



OUTLET

TVs

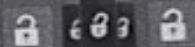
ALS

AGE

644 DANFORTH AVE.

TEL:(416)-792-4545

WE
REPAIR
UNLOCK



ALL
BRANDS
&
MODELS

- Cellphones
- Laptops
- Tablets
- Software
- Hardware
- Water damage

















CHURRASQUEIRA
MAR AZUL

(416) 530-9904





































OT GREEK TOWN

DOLLARAMA

KNOW IF YOU'LL
BE APPROVED
BEFORE YOU APPLY
TRY QUICK CHECK





















REPAIRS

ALL TYPE OF CELL PHONE REPAIRS

TELEPHONE REPAIRS - SALE & SERVICE













DANFORTH
Auto Tech
DANFORTH AVE.
Specializing in:
European and
Japanese Vehicles

MOTUL

PERFORMANCE ENGINE OILS AND LUBRICANTS





STOP

COMMUNITY
SAFETY
ZONE
FINAL
YEAR



Residential & Commercial Installations

CARPET · TEX
WALL TO WALL CARPET SALE
469-8170
NO PARKING REQUIRED

**Residential &
Commercial
Installations**

**WE
SPECIALIZE
WALL TO WALL**

**CARPET-TEX
CARPET SALE
469-8170
WALL TO WALL**

