

Michael Semak - Clip 11

Montorio nei Frentani, Italy

The man - he's a priest actually - walking through the fog, in this little town called Montorio nei Frentani, it's in south of Italy. And I just saw the picture, and I just raised my camera took the picture. I didn't worry about the exposure. One shot, and "boom," it's gone. And then, years later, Time Life Books carried that picture. And in one book they're talking about the technique. And they're talking how Michael Semak took the picture, how he figured, to get the fog effect, you have to overexpose, and you under develop. So you flatten out the neg, and the print. And they were going on, and on, and on. And I'm telling my students, "That's nonsense" - I would use a little stronger term - "That's nonsense." Michael Semak just raised the camera and whatever happened, happened. Because I didn't have time to worry about exposure. So there you go. So don't believe these textbooks about photography.

