



Michael Semak - Clip 12

Couple, Skiathos, Greece

This picture was taken in an island, either Skopelos or Skiathos, mid way up from Athens in Greece. And they were gypsies. And the man was weaving a chair, and this was how he earned his money, and this woman, his wife, just happened to touch him, and I was there at the right moment. Again, the gods smiled at me that day. And I just pressed the shutter. And they would run from me, so I had to be very, very quick. They were very shy. But I got maybe a dozen or so frames. But this picture Carl Sagan, the noted American astronomer, saw the picture in the Time Life book, and he had his assistant call me, and I sent the picture to Carl Sagan, and he in turn sent it to NASA, in Texas. And he wanted that picture to be in two American spaceships that went up in 1975. NASA turned it down because the viewer could not see the woman's eyes. So if I had known that, I would have had the woman, or I would have gone over and pulled her kerchief a little back, as Karsh pulled the cigar from Churchill's mouth, and then that picture would have been up in the universe somewhere. So it almost got a free ride on two spaceships.

