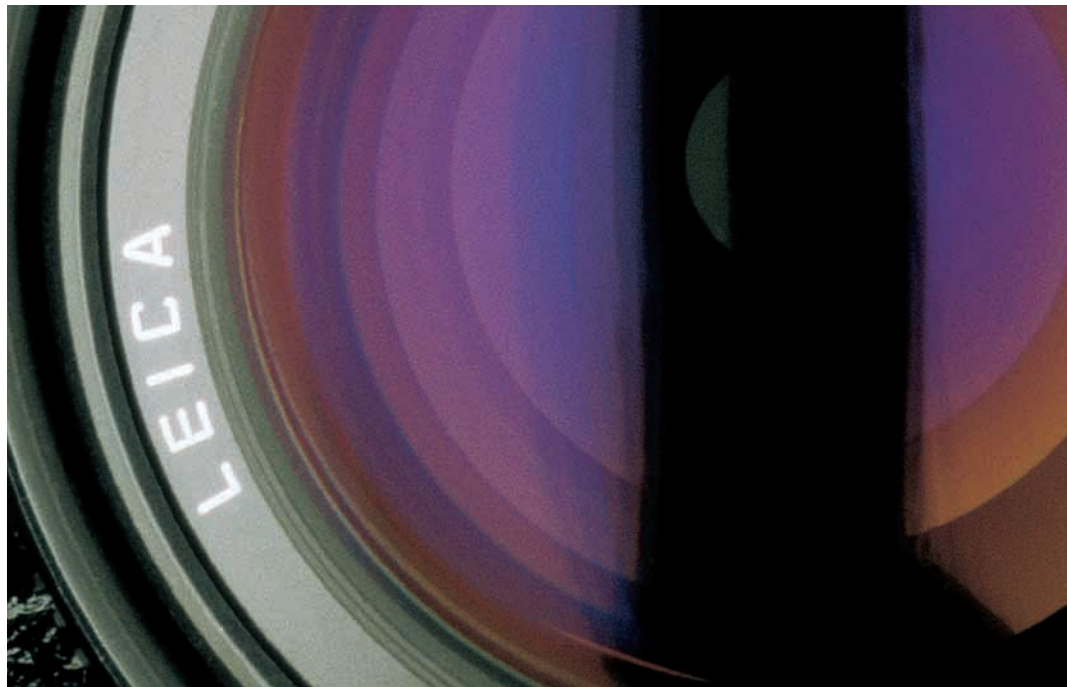




**LEICA**

# LEICA R-System: Cameras



*Fascination and Precision*



# Creating at the highest level with the LEICA R system

*Our LEICA R cameras provide you with great freedom for your individual pictorial creativity and they stand out for their exemplary precision and dependability. They are respected by photographers around the world who will not be satisfied with anything but the very best in single lens reflex cameras.*

LEICA R8 and LEICA R6.2: two typical Leica single lens reflex cameras, both of the highest standard of quality – even though they were designed for different photographic applications. Our latest SLR design, the LEICA R8, represents all our optical and mechanical know-how, it embodies the outstanding results of years of development work. Because with the LEICA R8 we want to offer you a unique technological masterpiece. This camera meets the highest demands down to the smallest detail in order always to deliver the very best: brilliant photographs, even under extremely difficult light conditions. The LEICA R8 provides you with the gratifying confidence of being able to rely fully and totally on precise automatic procedures – as long as you so desire. But you can also exercise your creative latitude as much as you wish with all camera functions. With its manifold manual setting possibilities, the R8 always leaves it up to you to what extent you wish to control the exposure yourself. It offers you the freedom of expressing all your ideas creatively. Or, are you the type of photographer who always wishes to compose his pictures himself, individually? And do you therefore give basic preference to manual settings

and purely mechanical operation? If so, you will probably wish to dispense with cleverly designed electronic refinements entirely.

In that case you can implement your creative talents in an ideal manner with the LEICA R6.2. With its sturdy and durable design, you can also unhesitatingly subject this camera to the toughest challenges – it always functions with absolute accuracy and dependability. Even under extreme climatic conditions. Our LEICA R cameras follow different concepts. But both of them have one thing in common: the highest quality of fabrication of every individual component and of the entire manufacturing process – something that you can rightfully expect from Leica. In addition, we have an excellent selection of practical accessories available for both cameras; and of course, a very extensive array of superb lenses whose performance is praised by experts all over the world.





# The new style of photography

*The fascinating design of the LEICA R8 was conceived from the ground up over many years of development time. Elegant aesthetics and user-friendly functionality were combined in a very successful manner – in the best interests of photographers with high expectations.*



*The design concept of the LEICA R8 evolved step by step from exhausting technical discussions.*

Judiciously balanced in every detail, the design of the LEICA R8 will quickly excite you. Its compact external appearance is attractive because of the clarity of its contours and the harmony of all its proportions. The prism housing that usually clearly protrudes on other SLR cameras, was integrated into the shape of the R8 camera body with elegant restraint, so that it is but a graceful contour.

The main operating elements do not protrude, they were recessed into the housing instead. That, incidentally, not only has aesthetic, but also very practical reasons: "Many cameras have to be cleaned with a brush. The LEICA R8 you can simply wipe with a soft cloth". (Industrial designer Manfred Meinzer)

As you can see, the perfect styling of the LEICA R8 is not just for the eye to



appreciate. The camera is a joy to hold, and the operating elements are positioned ergonomically. For more pleasantly satisfying operation, preference was given to directly visible setting markings over LCD displays. All the operating elements provide you with a good overview and control at all times. They are straightforward and self-explanatory – you don't have to struggle through lengthy operating instructions!

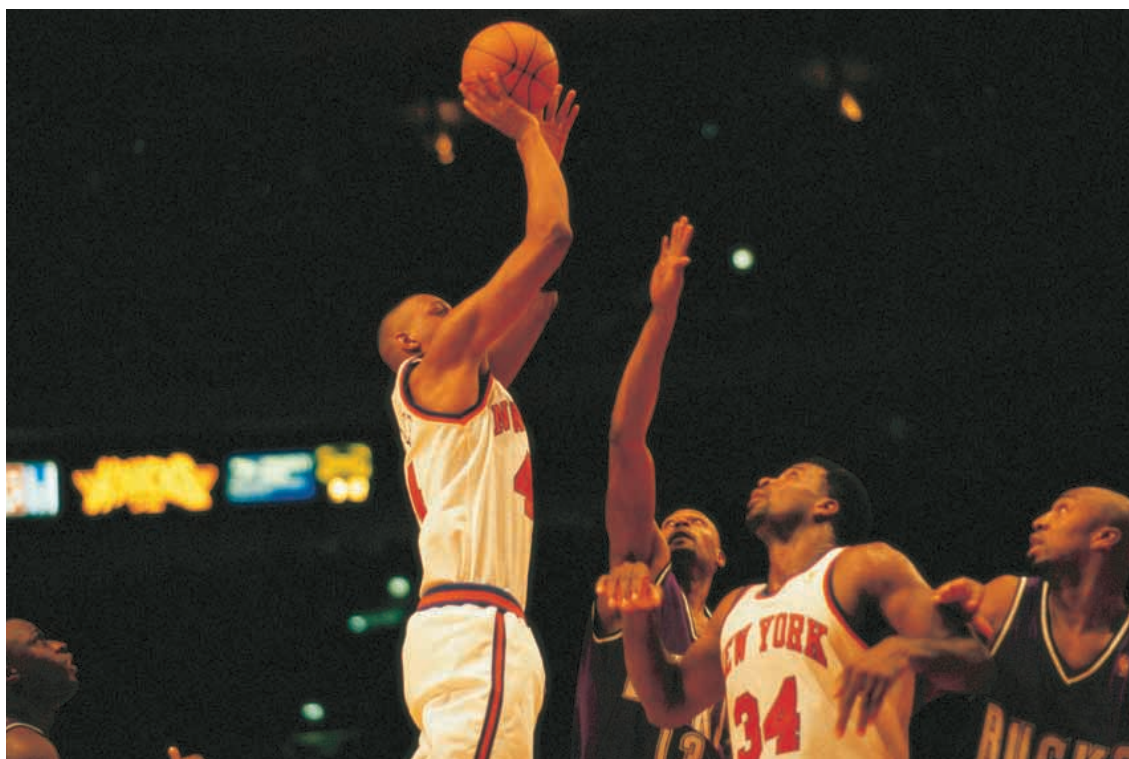


*Several years of development work finally climaxed in the unmistakable form of the LEICA R8. Uncompromised functionality is combined with an impressive and unique aesthetic that particularly stands out because of its distinctively clean styling.*



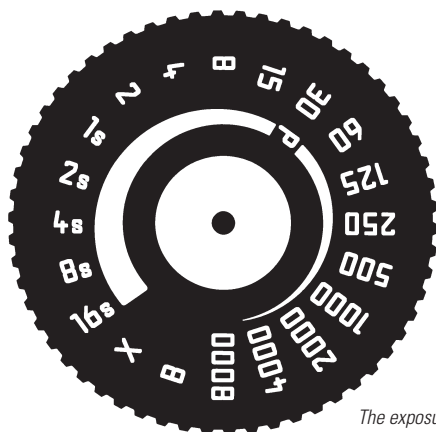
## Accurate at all times

*The shutter of the LEICA R8, with extremely fast shutter speeds up to 1/8000 second creates new dimensions in picture composition. And even after 100 000 operations it still functions with the accuracy for which Leica is praised time and time again in independent tests.*



Pati Stenlansson

Your subject may be involved in ever so much action – but with the LEICA R8 you can be sure of capturing it. And with razor-sharpness!



### Fast and accurate

Because the R8 is equipped with a super-fast shutter. A microprocessor controls the extremely lightweight shutter blades with the highest precision. Stepless in the aperture priority and automatic program exposure control modes over the entire range from 32 seconds to 1/8000 second. And in half steps, beginning at 16 seconds, in the shutter speed priority and manual exposure control modes. With the super-fast shutter speeds, even the swiftest action scenes can be “frozen” dramatically.

### Greater freedom with flash

The highest synchronized shutter speed of 1/250 second provides you with a distinct advantage in terms of creative freedom when you use your LEICA R8 with flash. For example, with a 250th of a second you can take sharp photographs of fast-moving subjects in daylight with fill-in flash. Or you can limit the depth of field by using large apertures. With the LEICA R8 you always enjoy an ample latitude of choices – and that at the highest technical level.

*The exposure time that has been set is clearly legible on the large shutter speed dial that is smoothly integrated into the shape of the camera body.*



## Easy from beginning to end: the film advance

*To make photography with the LEICA R8 an enjoyable experience right from the beginning, loading and advancing the film are an easy matter. And as you would expect it from this camera, here too, you have the choice of various options.*

The convenience of operating this outstanding camera begins with loading the film: you simply position the leader at the marking in the film channel and threading is then carried out by the camera. Next you have three choices for advancing the film, depending on your needs:

How would you prefer to advance or rewind the film? Manually and silently? The LEICA R8 makes it possible. That mode enables you to travel with lighter baggage, because you don't need a motorized film advance accessory.



Or would you like the film to be advanced automatically after an exposure has been made? For that convenience, simply attach the lightweight, compact MOTOR-WINDER-R8 to the base of the camera. Its styling blends in perfectly and inconspicuously with the contours of the camera. The MOTOR-WINDER-R8 enables you to take pictures at a rate of two frames per

second, and if you wish it can rewind the film automatically after its last frame has been exposed.

And if you expect situations that require a boosted energy supply, for instance in extremely cold temperatures or in prolonged applications, there is a supplementary "Power Pack" available in the form of a rechargeable battery pack that will always supply sufficient energy.

Or would you like to take pictures at an even livelier rate in order to capture fast-moving events in skillful picture sequences? Then the MOTOR-DRIVE-R8 with its potent film advance is the right choice for you. (The MOTOR-DRIVE-R8 is currently in preparation.) And you also have choices in rewinding the film: do you want the film leader to disappear into the cartridge or not? This is a very effective way of identifying a cartridge in order to prevent the accidental re-use of a film that has already been exposed.

As you can see, the LEICA R8 always gives you the opportunity to make a decision regarding the film advance. And last but not least, with this camera you only need to take along the accessories you will really need.



*The lightweight MOTOR-WINDER-R8 is attached to the base of the camera and it blends harmoniously with the styling of the camera body.  
Order-No. 14 209*

# It's all clearly in the viewfinder

*All the information you need for a successful exposure is shown clearly and succinctly in the high-eyepoint viewfinder of the LEICA R8. And the first look through this exceptional viewfinder already gives you a preview of the outstanding performance of LEICA R lenses, even before the exposure is made.*



## Perfect view

A joy, even for the demanding eyes of an expert: the viewfinder of the LEICA R8 presents an exceptionally brilliant and contrasty image. Very bright – even under unfavorable light conditions – it shows you the subject and all its nuances exactly as it is in reality. The meticulously precise and complex fabrication of all the optical elements in the light path assure an excellent rendition of the subject.

Even if you wear eyeglasses, you have everything in clear view with the LEICA R8. It has an integrated correction feature

with a range of +2 to –2 diopters that permits individual adjustment to the user's eyesight. This produces an absolutely sharp image – an important prerequisite for accurate focusing.

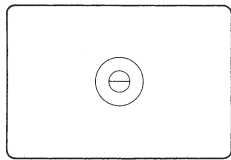
## Control and overview

The displays in the viewfinder provide you with all the essential information that applies to the exposure control mode that you have selected: easy to read, clear and unequivocal. A perfect control center. The various parameters – including an exposure counter – are grouped in an LCD line below the

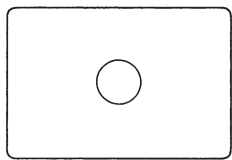
*Easy to operate, even with the camera at eye level:  
the exposure compensation lever for exposure corrections.*



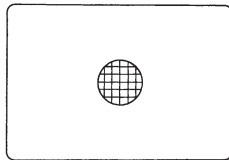




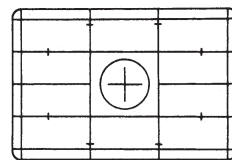
*Universal focusing screen*



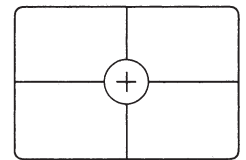
*Uniform ground glass screen*



*Microprism focusing screen*



*Uniform ground glass screen with grid divisions*



*Clear glass screen with cross lines*

viewfinder image. So that it won't distract you when you want to concentrate fully on the composition of your photograph. And for even more convenience, there is an additional LCD (liquid crystal display) on the back cover of the LEICA R8. In addition to certain parameters that are also shown in the viewfinder (such as flash readiness), it provides information about film speed, selftimer operation and battery condition. Also, you'll quickly realize how convenient the display on the back cover is, when you work with the camera mounted on a tripod. So, as a

LEICA R8 photographer, you always have a good overview, even when you are not holding the camera at eyelevel.



*The LEICA R8 is normally supplied with a universal focusing screen. Four additional focusing screens are available as accessories.*

Enrico Domhardt



# Exposure metering – the right choice for every case

*With a LEICA R8 you have the choice of three exposure metering modes: selective-, integral- and multi-pattern metering. That gives you flexibility in dealing with any lighting situation. And at the same time you can rely on the intelligent and precise interpretation by the camera.*



## Selective metering

Often the most interesting subjects are characterized by strong lighting contrasts – a challenge to dedicated photographers since way back when. But with the selective metering mode of your LEICA R8 you can master such lighting situations with complete confidence.

Using the small metering field delineated in the center of the viewfinder image, you can “selectively” meter the important part of the subject (provided

it includes a medium gray tonal value) – for example when you make a portrait with back lighting. But you can also accurately meter portions of the subject with different brightnesses and then derive the final exposure setting from those values.

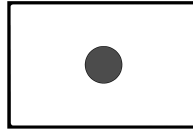
The setting that you have chosen can be stored by gently pressing the shutter release button to the first pressure point, so that you can then move the camera to the preferred cropping. If after that you change the f-stop

or the shutter speed, the camera will automatically compensate the corresponding second setting.

### Integral metering

When brightness contrasts are not very high and you wish to place the main subject in the center of the image anyway, integral metering is an appropriate choice. In this universal method, the reading is clearly center-weighted, but it also takes into account lighting conditions in the remaining image area. Thus you still have the possibility of controlling the exposure.

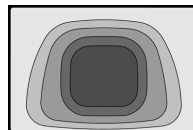
*The dot on the metering mode selector stands for selective metering.*



Luis Castañeda



*The rectangle on the metering mode selector stands for center-weighted integral metering.*



Páll Stefánsson

### Multi-pattern metering

There are times when one simply wants to take pictures spontaneously. Just pressing the button, without spending much time analyzing the exposure, leaving that up to the camera. In such cases the multi-pattern metering mode of the LEICA R8 produces balanced exposures in any lighting situation. Because its microprocessor works with "built-in photographic experience". It automatically analyzes the lighting conditions and derives an appropriate exposure from the results. This metering mode divides the subject area into six sections and it measures the brightness of each section separately. The readings are assigned to preprogrammed subject types, and the individual sections are then weighted in coordination with the whole. After that, the LEICA R8 fully automatically derives the correct exposure. Precisely and dependably.

*The dot in the rectangle on the metering mode selector stands for multi-pattern metering.*



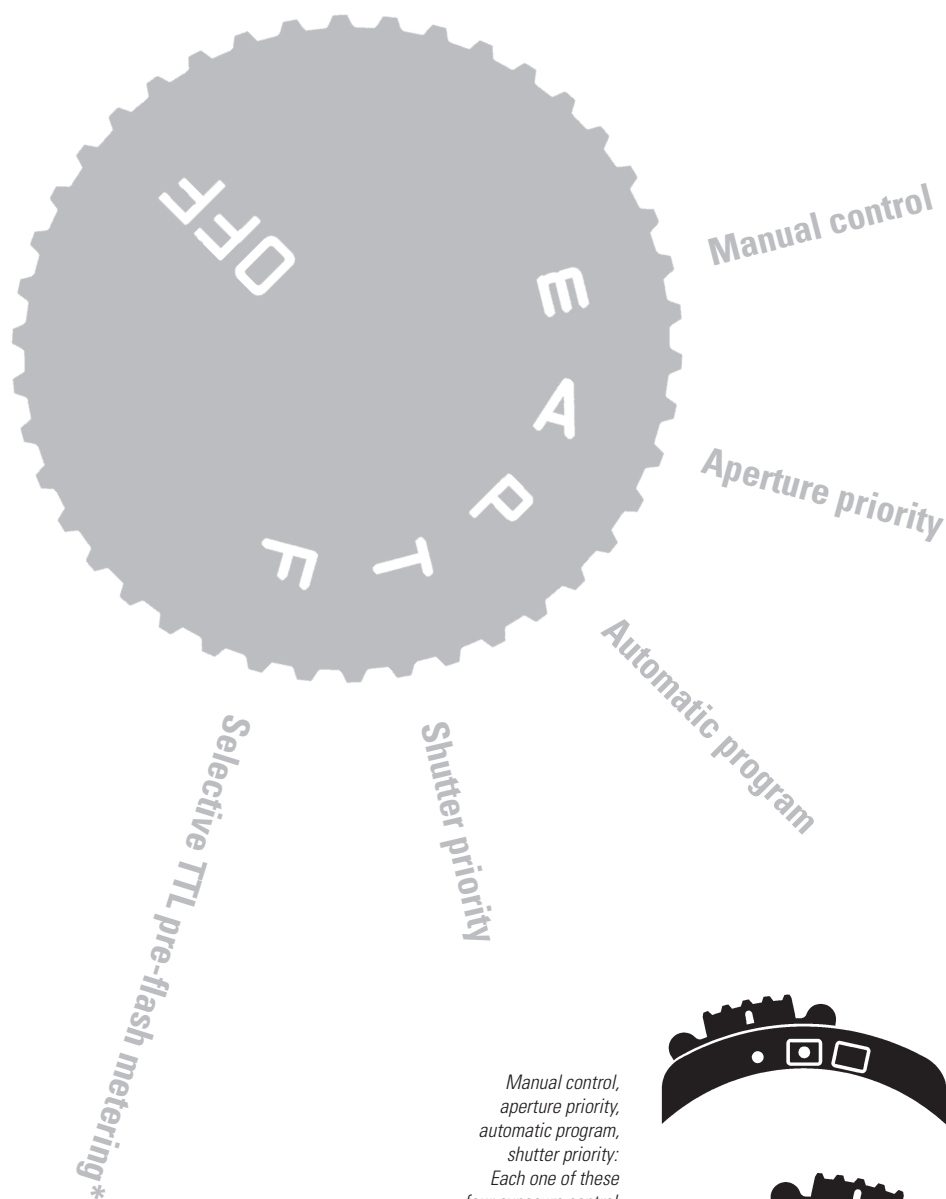
Páll Stefánsson





# Confident picture composition as a program

*Four modes of controlling aperture and shutter speed – the LEICA R8 provides them so that you can implement every conceivable idea as creatively as you wish. Great snapshots? Dramatic action photographs? Or manually controlled creative photographs? The choice is yours.*



(\*SCA-controlled flash exposure metering possible in m, A, P and T-modes)

Manual control, aperture priority, automatic program, shutter priority: Each one of these four exposure control modes can be freely combined with any one of the three exposure metering methods.

## Variable program mode

Interesting subjects usually don't wait around for you. Instead, they call for a quick reaction. And that is very easy with the variable program automatic exposure control mode on the LEICA R8: you can confidently entrust it with the exposure control setting function in any situation. It immediately determines the right combination of shutter speed and aperture. And you can relax in the confidence that every photograph will be successful.

But you can do more with automatic program exposure control than "just" capturing successful snapshots: you can also influence the shutter speed and aperture combination yourself. You may wish to make sharp pictures of moving subjects. Or you may prefer to be creative with blurred motion shots. That is no problem with the LEICA R8. Because with the variable program mode you can determine whether you want the camera to use a faster shutter speed – and with it a larger aperture – or if you want it to operate exactly the other way around.



Jürgen Winkler

### Shutter speed priority

To capture subjects in lively action is always fascinating. In some cases every detail of a fast movement is to be rendered in needle-sharp detail. In other cases, motion blur is to be used intentionally to emphasize the dynamics of vigorous action. With the shutter priority mode of the LEICA R8 you can creatively predetermine the effect of your action shots: you select the appropriate shutter speed, and the camera will automatically set the correct aperture.

### Aperture priority

One of the most important creative elements in photography is depth of field. It enables you to place dramatic emphasis on important details. With the aperture priority mode of the LEICA R8 you can concentrate completely on the choice of the most appropriate aperture

and with it on the creative use of the depth of field. And thanks to the preview lever, which allows you to view your subject at the working aperture, you can already judge the effect of your choice in the viewfinder. The camera automatically takes care of setting the correct shutter speed.

### Manual control mode

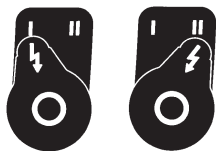
You may occasionally wish to set both the shutter speed as well as the aperture yourself. There are certain lighting situations when it is desirable to select all the settings manually. It might be in order to record a particularly moody atmosphere or deliberately to capture certain effects in special situations. All you need to do in such cases is to select the "m" mode for manual operation, and the LEICA R8 leaves everything else up to you.

## Cast light on the subject with flash

*The flash technology of the LEICA R8 presents you with additional creative freedom. Using the two flash exposure metering methods you can capture lighting moods exactly as you want them. Flash can easily be tailored to ambient light.*



Günter Osterloh



*Vigorous motion is often depicted more realistically with the flash ignition set for the second shutter curtain: shown above is the lever for selecting the instant of flash ignition.*

### Flash with the automatic program mode

It also applies to flash: you indicate your preference, the LEICA R8 follows up with the optimal technique. First you decide whether you wish to rely on the computer-controlled exposure metering of the camera when taking pictures with flash. If so, set the mode selector on "P" for programmed automatic exposure control. The metering of the flash light will then be integral. And, depending on ambient lighting conditions, the flash will deliver full or reduced power. Or none at all. When and how much, the LEICA R8 will know.

### Being creative with flash illumination

If however you wish to take the settings for flash exposures into your own hands – the LEICA R8 will gladly give you precedence. With manual settings, aperture priority and shutter priority automatic exposure controls, flash exposure metering is always integral. You select the shutter speed or the



aperture for the desired pictorial effect. In addition, you can also enter corrections on the SCA adapter for the exact dosing of flash output.

### The "m" mode

The "manual" (m) exposure control mode is excellent for controlling available light independently from the effect of flash illumination. Especially for photographs in the moody illumination of twilight, it is the ideal mode for achieving a very good balance of contrast between flash-illuminated foreground and ambient light.

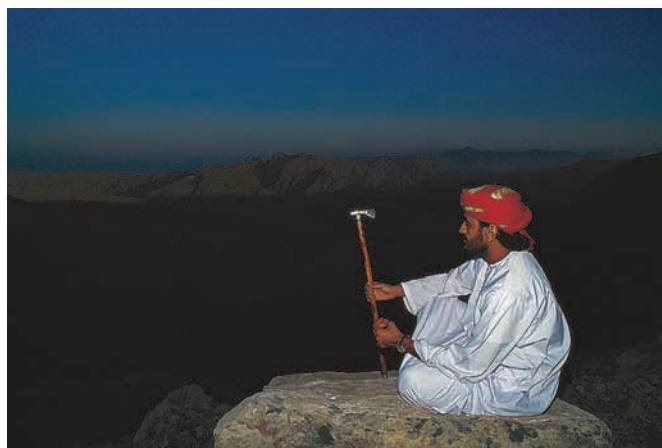
### 1st or 2nd shutter curtain?

Another plus for flash photography with the LEICA R8: you can set flash ignition for the beginning or the end of the exposure. Depending on this timing, the same subject will be rendered quite differently. When the flash is triggered at the end of the exposure (normally it is fired at the beginning), moving subjects are depicted more dramatically, more so with longer exposure times.

### Even more smart flash functions

#### with the "F" mode

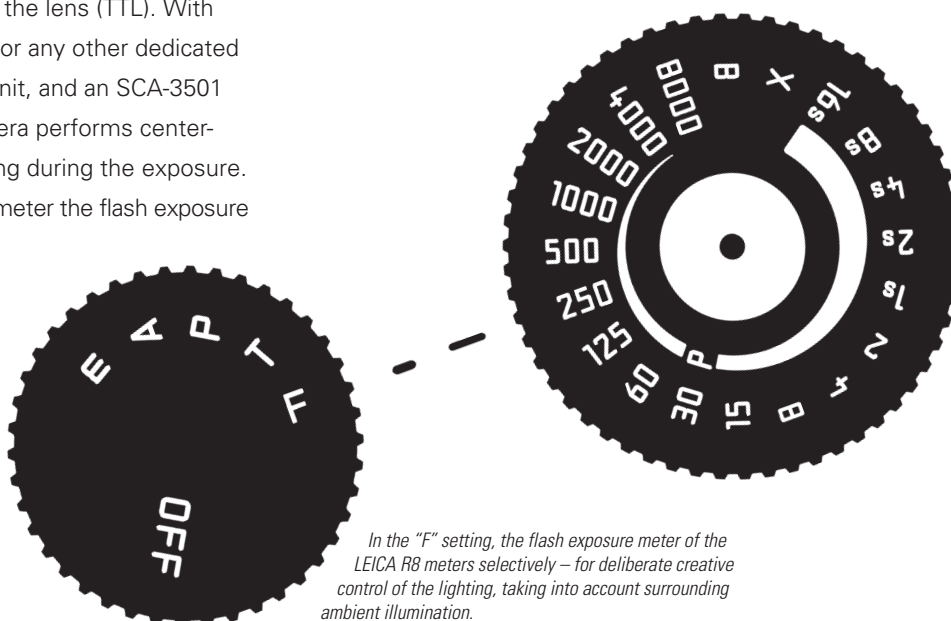
With a LEICA R8, flash output is always metered through the lens (TTL). With the LEICA SF 20 or any other dedicated electronic flash unit, and an SCA-3501 adapter, the camera performs center-weighted metering during the exposure. But you can also meter the flash exposure



*The exceptionally versatile flash technology of the LEICA R8 is ideal for individual pictorial creativity.*

Udo Bernhardt

before making the actual exposure, using any type of flash unit – including professional studio outfits. In that case, the LEICA R8 performs selective metering, which enables you to tailor the flash output specifically to a particular detail of your subject. After every flash metering, the deviation from the correct overall exposure is indicated in the viewfinder and on the back cover display. Based on that information, you can then select an adequate shutter speed and aperture combination.



*In the "F" setting, the flash exposure meter of the LEICA R8 meters selectively – for deliberate creative control of the lighting, taking into account surrounding ambient illumination.*

## The dependability of the legendary LEICA R6.2

*Robust all-metal body, a shutter that does not depend on batteries, and perfect quality of fabrication: that makes the mechanical LEICA R6.2 the ideal single lens reflex camera for creative photography under all climatic conditions.*



Sebastião Salgado



“My photographic activities take place under extreme climatic

conditions, thus placing severe demands on the durability of my equipment. The mechanical LEICA R6.2 has proven itself in harsh action and it has provided me with outstanding pictures, even without battery power.”

Sebastião Salgado, Brazil



The LEICA R6.2 has already been the indispensable tool for many adventurers and photojournalists that never lets them down. Because we very deliberately designed the robust mechanism of this high performance camera for use under extreme conditions.

### Quality “Made by Leica”

The important details of the LEICA R6.2 are still fabricated by hand to this day. Metallic components, accurately matched to one another – surface-treated and protected against corrosion, perform their tasks dependably for

many decades. It begins with the selection of the materials that are used in the LEICA R6.2, which is guided rigidly by the longevity and the resistance against shocks, impacts and against the effects of humidity and extreme temperature variations that they can provide. In uncompromising hardness tests, especially in the so-called “burn-in test”, the complete camera is repeatedly subjected to enormous temperature variations, between which all its functions are individually checked. Only when a LEICA R6.2 has passed our uninterrupted quality controls with flying colors, proving that it can function absolutely accurate and dependable, even under extreme conditions, is it permitted to leave our factory.

### Creative freedom

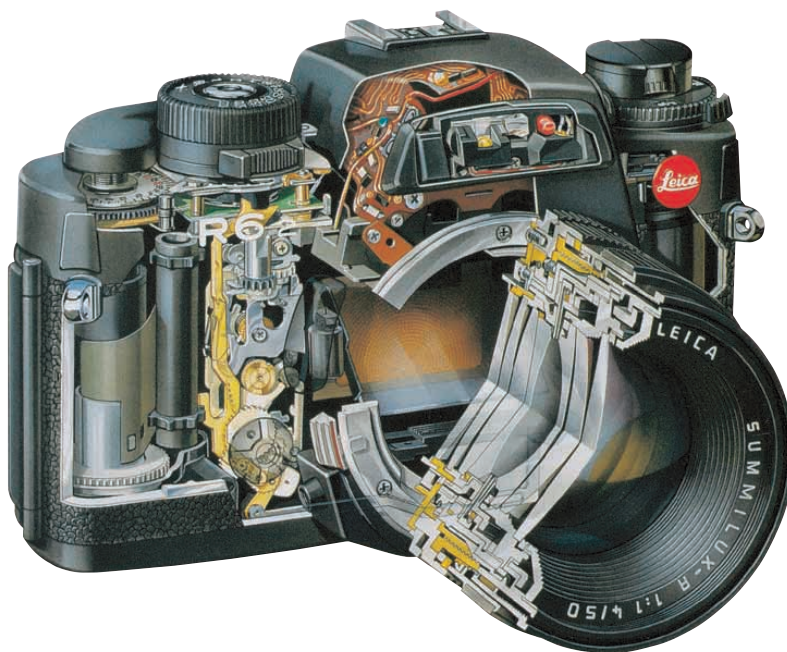
The LEICA R6.2 provides you with the freedom of implementing your own creative ideas, without any constraints imposed by automatic exposure control procedures. With this camera, you will always enjoy the challenge and the freedom of composing your subjects with the classic elements of photography: on the LEICA R6.2, aperture and shutter speed are always set manually.

### Precise shutter

Its robust metal body houses a purely mechanical shutter with highly accurate control. It guarantees reproducible and uniformly accurate shutter speeds, even under extreme conditions. The shutter of the LEICA R6.2 does not depend on

batteries, it works fast, quietly and extremely dependable. The mirror lock-up option eliminates even minor vibrations during an exposure.

*With a robust exterior that can endure harsh usage, and an interior that houses the highest precision: a cross-section of the LEICA R6.2.*



Sebastião Salgado



# Visible perfection in the viewfinder

*Especially with a mechanical camera, it is very important to have a constant overview of the relevant information that affects the creation of a photograph. You make the settings and the viewfinder shows you everything you need to know before you release the shutter.*



*It protects the eye from extraneous light and it serves to hold eyesight correction lenses: the flexible eyecup (left). It facilitates work with the camera on a copying stand and it also enables you to take photographs from a worm's eyeview: the rotating angle finder (center). Prevents stray light from affecting the exposure metering: the eyepiece shutter (right).*

Focusing, f-stop, shutter speed, exposure metering – the viewfinder display of the LEICA R6.2 gives you all the pertinent information concerning the camera settings, clearly and unequivocally. A clearly legible control center for creative photography.

## Balancing shutter speed and aperture

The correct exposure value is conveniently determined by means of the light balance in the viewfinder. If your subject requires a specific shutter speed, you can preset that speed and then turn the aperture ring until the correct balance is visible in the viewfinder. If, on the other hand, you wish to concentrate on the depth of field, then you first set the desired aperture and then adjust the shutter speed to establish the right combination.

## Outstanding viewfinder optics

We have always considered a brilliant viewfinder image to be of the greatest importance in our cameras. Just look through the viewfinder of the LEICA R6.2 and you'll be convinced. The

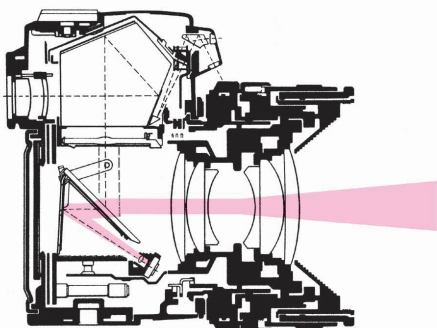
pentaprism is ground with high precision and coated with pure silver, and no less than 17 layers are coated on the hinged mirror in a vacuum chamber. The result is absolutely remarkable: a viewfinder image that is exceptionally clear, bright and contrasty, even in poor lighting conditions. When it is dark, the aperture scale of the lens can be illuminated. The built-in +2 to –2 diopter adjustment in the viewfinder eyepiece allows it to be tailored specifically to the user's eye. Additional correction lenses from +3 to –3 diopters can be attached.

## A choice of 5 focusing screens

The LEICA R6.2 is normally supplied with the Universal Focusing Screen, which permits accurate focusing with virtually all photographic tasks. In addition there are four more interchangeable focusing screens available as accessories: the Uniform Ground Glass Screen, the Microprism Screen, the Uniform Ground Glass Screen with Grid Divisions and the Clear Glass Screen with Crosslines. That means that you are also very well equipped for special tasks.

# Exposure metering to suit your needs

*The LEICA R6.2 offers three options for TTL (through-the-lens) exposure metering: center-weighted large field integral metering, pin-point accurate selective metering and flash exposure metering.*



*Metering field for selective metering as it appears in the viewfinder. To the left is a diagram of the lightpath with selective metering.*

## Integral metering

Under normal lighting conditions without strong contrasts, your best choice is large field integral metering. Because the important part of the subject is usually depicted near the center of the image, this method uses center-weighted metering. But lighting conditions in the rest of the subject area are also taken into account.

## Selective metering

With the precise selective metering mode you can confidently manage even the most difficult lighting situations. Subjects with very light or very dark backgrounds, for instance, or stage shots that include blinding light sources, or portraits by candlelight. With this mode you aim the small metering field in the center of the viewfinder image at that part of the subject that is most important for the exposure and determine the exposure settings. Then select the best cropping for your subject. The shutter speed and aperture that you have set manually will be retained. It takes only a small motion of the finger to switch back and forth between

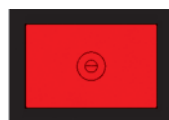


Oliver Richter

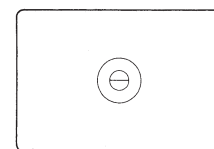
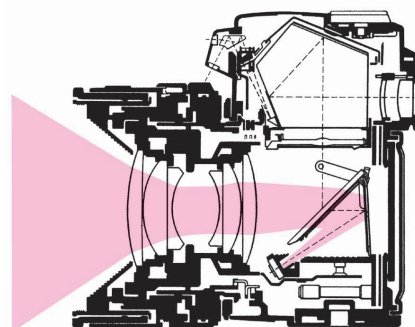
selective and integral metering without taking the camera away from the eye. Because you should not be distracted from concentrating completely on your photograph.

## Skillful flash photography

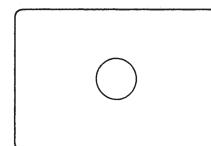
Flash photography with the LEICA R6.2 is basically as simple as photography in normal light. TTL flash exposure metering provides precise settings with any focal length. It works beautifully in conjunction with all electronic flash units that are equipped with a "System Camera Adaptation" (SCA) 300 or 500.



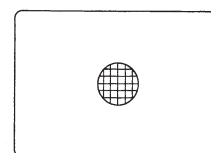
*Metering field for large field integral metering as it appears in the viewfinder. To the right is a diagram of the lightpath with large field integral metering.*



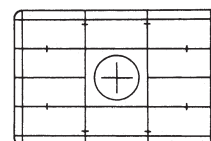
Universal Focusing Screen



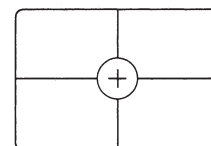
Uniform Ground Glass Screen



Micaprism Screen



Uniform Ground Glass Screen with Grid Divisions



Clear Glass Screen with Crosslines





### Plus points of the LEICA R8 at a glance

- The distinctive styling of the LEICA R8 stands out for its unique clarity and timeless elegance.
- Its sturdy metal construction makes it robust and durable.
- Thanks to its outstanding ergonomic design, the LEICA R8 fits very well in the hands, even with long focal length lenses.
- All major controls are shaped for comfortable handling and positioned for convenient access.
- The viewfinder display always provides an exact overview of all the important exposure information, along with an exceptionally bright and contrasty image.
- The fast shutter with speeds up to 1/8000 second opens new opportunities for creative picture compositions.
- In addition to the proven large field integral and selective exposure metering, the multi-pattern exposure metering enables you to photograph new and unusual subjects.
- The aperture priority, shutter and manual priority, programmed automatic, exposure control modes can be freely combined with any of the above three metering methods. The automatic program mode offers creative freedom, because the indicated shutter speed and aperture pairs can be varied at will.
- Several flash-, metering- and control functions provide extensive creative possibilities: from the precise analysis prior to the actual exposure to the automatic dosing of full flash or fill-in flash illumination.
- The focal lengths of the extensive line of world-famous LEICA R lenses range from 15 mm to 800 mm. They are compatible with earlier as well as future R cameras.
- A comprehensive line of practical accessories is available for the LEICA R8.

### Plus points of the LEICA R6.2 at a glance

- The classic, timeless styling of the LEICA R6.2 stands out for its elegance and ergonomic functionality. Its sturdy all-metal body is compact and easy to handle.
- Convenient control elements assure fast and confident picture-taking.
- Reliable electronic exposure metering leads to accurate exposures, even under extreme conditions. In bone-chilling cold and in stifling heat.
- The correct exposure can be determined with either selective or integral exposure metering.
- TTL flash exposure metering makes flash pictures as easy and as certain as photographs taken in daylight.
- All relevant exposure information is displayed in the bright and brilliant viewfinder of the LEICA R6.2.
- In addition to the Universal Focusing Screen that is normally supplied with the LEICA R6.2, there are four additional interchangeable focusing screens available as accessories.
- Built-in eyepiece correction, adjustable from +2 to -2 diopters.
- Mirror lock-up helps to prevent vibrations.
- More than 30 high-performance lenses with focal lengths from 15 to 800 mm are compatible with earlier as well as future LEICA R cameras.
- Perfectly compatible accessories permit the LEICA R system to be tailored to individual requirements.
- Leica Customer Service, more than 100 Leica representations all over the world, as well as an extensive network of authorized Leica dealers, assure qualified service virtually everywhere in the world.