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Teaser: Gray Malin is the artistic photographer and creator of Dogs of New York. This aesthetic photo collection personifies dogs as people in the city.

### Dogs of New York

Pets are of significant value, not only do they bring comfort and joy, but they are also close companions. There are 600,000 dogs in New York City, and dogs make up 27% of New York households. For college students, seeing a dog on or off campus can remind them of home. Seeing dogs in public can be an instant boost of serotonin or stress relief.

There's a reason why Fordham's Pet Advocacy for Underprivileged Survivors (PAUS) club brings puppies on campus during Finals week. When you're walking down the streets of the Belmont area, you will most likely see someone walking their dog. In a city as busy and cramped as this, Canines need their exercise too. My two labs enjoy going on walks in the Upper West Side and trips to Bull Moose Park dog run on 81st.

Dogs are clearly a huge part of our lives and Photographer, Gray Malin, captures that with his photo series called: *Dogs of New York*. Malin used 14 dogs and a team of 24 people to accomplish this project. He includes a total of 12 photos in the collection. He shot the dogs in one day at a couple of different New York staple locations: Central Park, Bergdorf Goodman, Observation deck on the Top of the Rock, Rockefeller Center, and the Plaza Hotel.

He captured various breeds of dogs including a Dalmation, Golden Retriever, Great Dane, Irish Setter mix, Poodle, Corgi, Bernise, etc. "Picnic Party" features several dogs in Central Park set up for a Picnic. In the photo, there are lounge chairs, balloons, a

picnic basket, and a beach ball present. One dog in the middle is holding a baguette in its mouth.

In another, on the Top of the Rock at Rockefeller Plaza, he captures the dogs wearing sunglasses and “sunbathing”, and that photo is fittingly named “Sunbathers”. He personifies the dogs throughout this piece to play around with our views of pets.

Although we see dogs all the time, they aren’t shopping in front of Bergdorf Goodman or sightseeing on the Top of the Rock. That’s why Malin’s playful twist on perspective makes for creative art.

He sells his photos in three sizes on his website and also offers different options of frames. His collections have several themes and locations ranging from Hollywood to Antarctica. In addition to Dogs of New York, he also has Dogs at the Beverly Hills Hotel.

Some of my favorite pieces by him are his aerial Beach shots and his shots of other unique animals. He has some including a lion, horse, elephant, camel, giraffe, llama, penguin, and even a monkey. These shots are taken all over the world and set up according to the theme.

The photos contain good contrast, color, and saturation. This makes them pleasing to the eye as well. Gray Malin has over 400,000 followers on Instagram and got his start selling his work in Flea Markets. Not only does he sell photography prints, but he also sells a huge variety of different products.

On his website, he offers puzzles, tote bags, passport cases, trays, gift wrap, candles, and much more. His products are of high quality and artistic value. His work is decorative and aesthetically pleasing. For art lovers and New Yorkers looking for simple apartment decor, his products do the trick.

