

Photojournalist presents the good, bad, ugly and beautiful of New Orleans

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A marching group celebrates in a New Orleans street parade. Cheryl Gerber spoke about her book of photographs, *New Orleans: Life and Death in the Big Easy*, at a Fridays@Newcomb event in the Anna Many Lounge of the Caroline Richardson Building on the Tulane University uptown campus April 1. (Photo by Cheryl Gerber)

“Keep your eyes open — and always look around you.”

Photographer [Cheryl Gerber](#) gave this advice at the Fridays@Newcomb event sponsored by the [Newcomb College Institute](#) on Friday (April 1).

Being aware of her surroundings and ready to capture the moment is the approach Gerber has taken in her more than two decades working as a freelance photographer in New Orleans.

Gerber presented a slide show of photographs from her new book, [New Orleans: Life and Death in the Big Easy](#) (University of Louisiana at Lafayette Press, 2015). The photos juxtapose “all walks of life in this city,” she said.

The photos show the stunning contrasts of life in New Orleans — from Rex to the King of Zulu, from a downtown street party to an uptown garden party, from street parades and musicians to funerals and murder scenes.

“I have the good fortune to work a lot in this town and be in a lot of different places,” said Gerber. “I could be in the homes of the richest people on St. Charles Avenue one minute and the next minute, I’m hanging out on a street corner in Treme.”

Gerber will be presenting her photos again on Wednesday (April 6) at 5:30 p.m. at a Tulane Club of New Orleans lifelong learning event in the Bea Field Alumni House.

She will be joined by [Sally Asher](#), a Tulane staff photographer and author of two books about New Orleans; and John Pope, a reporter for *The Times-Picayune* for more than 40 years and the newspaper’s star obituary writer. Pope has recently published [Getting Off at Elysian Fields](#) (University Press of Mississippi), an anthology of 123 of his obituaries and stories of four funerals he covered.

Register [here](#) for “Life, Death and Burial in New Orleans,” a Tulane Alumni Association event moderated by David Johnson, communications associate for the Hermann-Grima and Gallier Historic Houses in the French Quarter.