

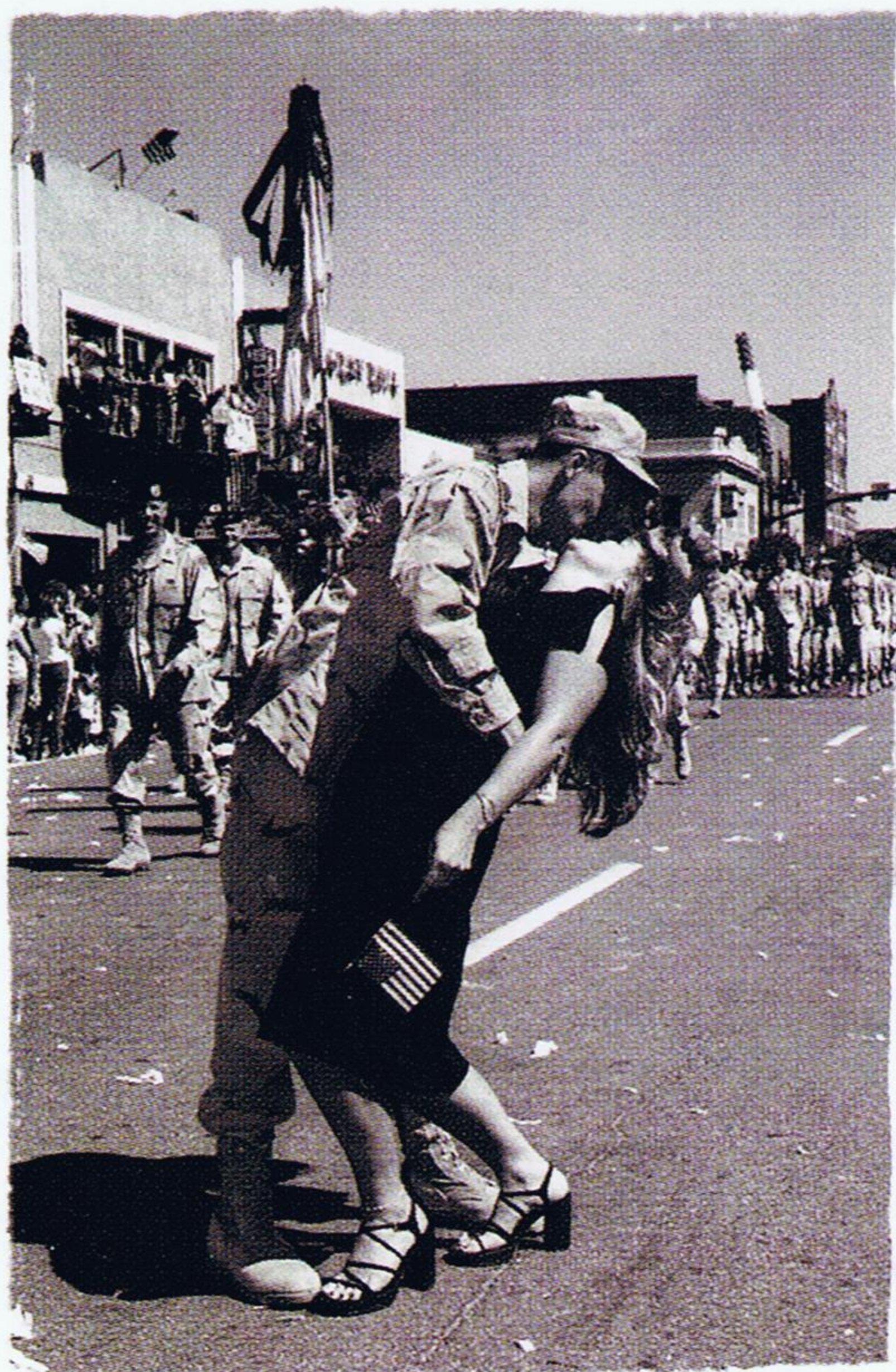
# I-stop

## Quick Take: Timeless Welcoming

IMAGE AND TEXT BY ALLISON EARNEST

Recently, Tejon Street in downtown Colorado Springs, Colorado, resembled a 1945 Times Square scene, with an estimated 75,000 people lining the streets for a parade welcoming home 12,000 soldiers from Iraq.

Before attending the event, I recalled the famous 1945 Alfred Eisenstadt photo of a sailor kissing a nurse during V-Day called "VJ Day, The Kiss" and wanted to re-enact the photo. I thought the parade would be an ideal setting. I recruited the couple depicted in this image, they were not reunited lovers. In fact, they had just met. I was a little nervous about how the crowd and law enforcement would feel about me and my models crashing the parade to get the photograph I envi-



Earnest holds Eisenstadt's 1945 image; "Welcome Home" hangs behind her.

sioned. When the perfect opportunity arose, the couple ran in front of the marching soldiers (left). I captured this image with my Nikon F100 and Kodak Portra B&W film, then printed it on Fuji Crystal Archive paper.

This photograph, named "Welcome Home," shows something good coming out of uncertain times. The soldier coming back from war makes this image timeless.

*Editor's Note:* Allison Earnest is selling a limited edition of numbered and signed 10x15 prints, with a portion of the donated money going to the Disabled Veterans of America. The prints can be purchased by emailing [welcomhomefoto@yahoo.com](mailto:welcomhomefoto@yahoo.com).

For more Earnest images, visit [www.allisonearnestphotography.com](http://www.allisonearnestphotography.com).