



# Trading Pit Hand Signals

By Ryan Carlson



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The advent of electronic trading has shuttered virtually every futures trading floor in the world, putting an end to the 150-year reign of the open outcry trading pit—those disorderly, deafening places where massive volumes of commodities could be bought or sold with a gesture. *Trading Pit Hand Signals* is a retrospective look at the history and function of open outcry trading pits with a specific focus on the trading floors of Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Singapore. Using engaging portrait photography of former pit traders, *Trading Pit Hand Signals* catalogs the hand signals that made commodities futures trading possible. Researched and written by a former pit trader who utilized the hand signals during his early career on various trading floors, *Trading Pit Hand Signals* records the history and sometimes ribald humor of the financial industry's most fascinating "lost language."

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## Trading Pit Hand Signals By Ryan Carlson Bibliography

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