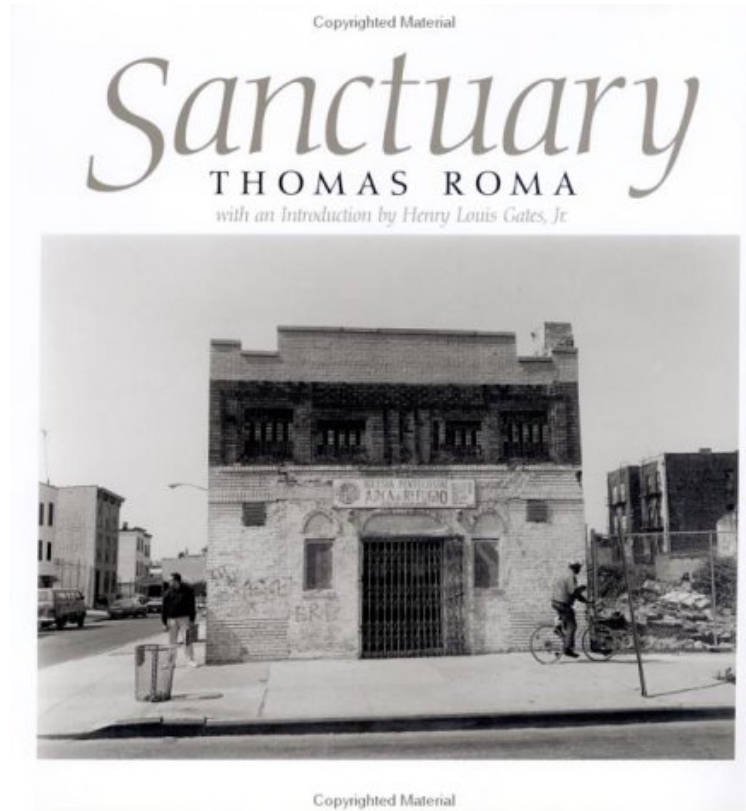


[E-BOOK] Sanctuary (Creating the North American Landscape)

Sanctuary (Creating the North American Landscape)

Thomas Roma

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Thomas Roma : Sanctuary (Creating the North American Landscape) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sanctuary (Creating the North American Landscape):

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Contrasting images of different religious faiths By Midwest Book Review
The title of Sanctuary refers to a place of worship and also a state of mind: Thomas Roma places these in visual perspective, locating sacred parts of the community within the Brooklyn area and charting the efforts of generations to leave their mark. His excellent black and white photos pack in contrasting images of different religious faiths and sanctuaries.

"Sanctuary refers to a place of worship and a state of mind but it also refers to the most sacred part of a Christian church, the site where the altar is housed. Thomas Roma's photographs locate these most sacred parts of the community within the larger context of Brooklyn's landscape, charting the triumphant efforts of generations to leave their mark, to make their way through the world of mammon and man, seeking solace within the city but far beyond it. They also reveal a persistent, irresistible determination to express spirituality within the often harsh landscape of the city, giving glory to God's resplendent being even through the often makeshift architecture of the storefront and the movie theater." Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
In Sanctuary, acclaimed photographer Thomas Roma offers a compelling sequence of 52 black-and-white images that document the varieties of religious experience in Brooklyn as seen in the

borough's sacred architecture. Juxtaposing pictures of grand Gothic and Romanesque churches photographed at a distance from backyards and alleys with more intimate views of smaller places of worship housed in converted storefronts and dilapidated brownstones, Roma subtly calls attention to issues of history and class, revealing how successive waves of immigrants have shaped Brooklyn's urbanscape and how the African-American and Hispanic communities living there now have worked to make these neighborhoods, culturally and spiritually, their own."From shabby storefronts to soaring cathedrals, from Iglesia Pentecostal Apocalipsis to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic, this photo book documents the churches of Brooklyn. In gentle black-and-white, against the trash and light of the city, Roma's pictures capture all the ways immigrants and citizens, rich and poor, have made homes for God in the harsh urban landscape."Molly Marsh, Sojourners Magazine

From shabby storefronts to soaring cathedrals, from Iglesia Pentecostal Apocalipsis to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic, this photo book documents the churches of Brooklyn. In gentle black-and-white, against the trash and light of the city, Roma's pictures capture all the ways immigrants and citizens, rich and poor have made homes for God in the harsh urban landscape. (Molly Marsh Sojourners)The buildings we build are the embodiment of our aspirations and our achievements. Above all, they express our values. They describe how we co-exist with others and, in the case of churches, how we co-exist with God and aspire to transcendence. Making a place for God, whether on the walls of doomed buildings or within steepled churches, is the subject of Thomas Roma's seemingly effortless study. He shows us that the place for God is anywhere within the tangled web of commerce, desire, domesticity and failure invisibly woven into our urban landscape. (Susan Kismaric, Curator of Photography, Museum of Modern Art)Tom Roma's pictures of churches in Brooklyn are so good: so understanding of the comfort they afford and the central role they play in the poorest communities even more than in more affluent neighborhoods. Roma's photographs convey this without the sentimentality of special pleading; instead, they are modest and eloquent. (Sandra S. Phillips, Senior Curator of Photography, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art)About the AuthorThomas Roma is director of photography and an associate professor of art at Columbia University's School for the Arts. A two-time Guggenheim Fellow, Roma has exhibited his photographs in solo shows at the Museum of Modern Art and the International Center of Photography. His previous books include Higher Ground, Come Sunday and Enduring Justice.