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Occasional Work And Seven Walks From The Office For Soft Architecture: Third Edition



Synopsis

This delectable book collects the rococo prose of Lisa Robertson. There are essays & many originally published as catalogue texts by art galleries & on the syntax of the suburban home, Vancouver fountains, Value Village, the joy of synthetics, scaffolding and the persistence of the Himalayan blackberry. It makes for one of the most intriguing books you'll ever read.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The guide to the 13 works and seven "walks" of this little book (4 1/8" x 5 7/8") is the "Office for Soft Architecture"-the alter ego of Canadian poet Robertson, author of *Debbie: An Epic* and *The Weather*. Seeking "the place in the polis of the sour heat and the pulse beneath our coats, the specific entry of our exhalations and words into the atmosphere," Robertson probes various fabrics, cities, rooms, people, histories and "the reaching middle," showing how life, in the way it uses space and time, is "soft architecture." Throughout, color and b&w photos and illustrations provide visual context for site-specific prose perambulations: a set of postcards of Vancouver sights graffiti-ed with spouting water lead to "The Fountain Transcript" ("Corporate fountains drooling goofily. Public fools."); photos of temporary scalable structures interspersed with Elspeth Pratt's sculptures situate "Doubt and the History of Scaffolding

'We say, on almost every page and with utmost reverence, Holy shit. ["All](#) Ever since, we have wanted to think like Robertson, write like her, maybe even be her.' ["All](#) ["œ Village Voice](#), listing it

as a top pick of 2004

This book is great. It's fun, it's factual, the writing style is as great as it is unusual. I got this book for a class, but it's something I'd consider buying for a friend.

Brilliant. Purchase immediately!

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