



If You Lived Here: The City in Art, Theory, and Social Activism : A Project (Discussions in Contemporary Culture)

By Martha Rosler



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Discussions in Contemporary Culture is an award-winning series copublished with the Dia Center for the Arts in New York City. These volumes offer rich and timely discourses on a broad range of cultural issues and critical theory. The collection covers topics from urban planning to popular culture and literature, and continually attracts a wide and dedicated readership.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This volume documents the present crisis in American urban housing policies and portrays how artists, through the medium of a Dia Foundation-sponsored art event and within the context of neighborhood organizations, have fought against government neglect, shortsighted housing policies and unfettered real estate speculation. Through essays, photographs, symposiums, architectural plans and the reproduction of works from the series of exhibitions organized by artist Rosler, the book serves a number of functions: it's a practical manual for community organizing; a history of housing and homelessness in New York City and around the country; and an outline of what a humane housing policy might encompass for the American city. Essays by Rosler, filmmaker Yvonne Rainer as well as contributions by social critic Marshall Berman and a variety of community activists, filmmakers, architects, artists, historians and social critics include discussion of issues such as whether artists have special housing needs, gentrification and displacement, and the conditions and causes of homelessness. Wallis is an editor at *Art in America*.

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About the Author

Martha Rosler is an artist who works in video, photography, text, installation, and performance. She is the author of *If You Lived Here: The City in Art, Theory, and Social Activism: Discussions in Contemporary Culture #6*, edited by Brian Wallis (The New Press).

Brian Wallis is chief curator and director of exhibitions at the International Center for Photography (ICP) and is on the faculty of the ICP-Bard Program. He was previously a curator at the New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York and a senior editor at *Art in America*. He is the editor of *Democracy: Discussions in Contemporary Culture #5* and *If You Lived Here: The City in Art, Theory, and Social Activism: Discussions in Contemporary Culture #6*, both published by The New Press.

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