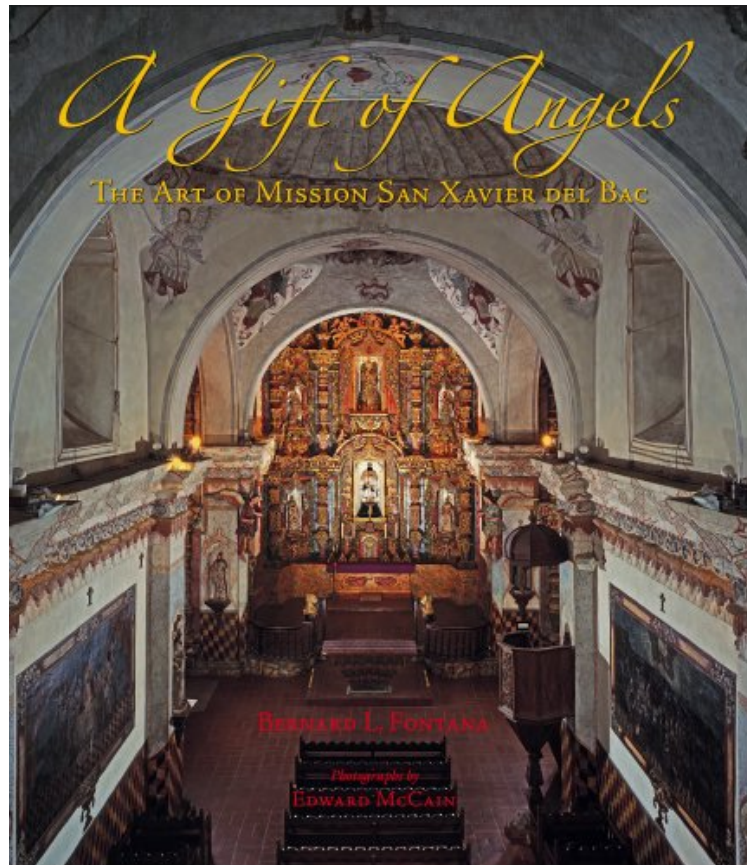


[Pdf free] A Gift of Angels: The Art of Mission San Xavier del Bac (Southwest Center Series)

A Gift of Angels: The Art of Mission San Xavier del Bac (Southwest Center Series)

Bernard L. Fontana

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Bernard L. Fontana : A Gift of Angels: The Art of Mission San Xavier del Bac (Southwest Center Series)

before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Gift of Angels: The Art of Mission San Xavier del Bac (Southwest Center Series):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Title says it all "A Gift of Angels" By Carl F. Marquez Tucson, Arizona has the best church in the United States of America. The San Xavier Mission is the sistine chapel of the Southwest desert. The history will take you by surprise and the mission will capture your heart like no other church has ever done before. For the people that go every weekend they call it home, but for the people that come to visit, they call it magical. This book will show the art, history and beautiful preservation of one of the oldest mission in the world. Bernard L. Fontana is a great author that really shows a side of this desert jewel like no other before him. This book will not last long for sure and to have it is like having a piece of history in your very own book collection. Enjoy! We love you Bernard with love from Carl your alter boy. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Johanna Stephens A treasure. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A SW treasure By Jessberger I am a docent at the Mission. The book is an excellent reference source for me helps immeasurably to prepare

for my guided tours

It rises suddenly out of the Sonoran Desert landscape, towering over the tallest tree or cactus, a commanding building with a sensuous dome, elliptical vaults, and sturdy bell towers. There is nothing else like it around, nor does it seem there should be. This incongruity of setting is what strikes first-time visitors to Mission San Xavier del Bac. This great church is of another place and another time, while its beauty is universal and timeless. Mission San Xavier del Bac is a two-century-old Spanish church in southern Arizona located just a few miles from downtown Tucson, a metropolis of more than half a million people in the American Southwest. A National Historic Landmark since 1963, the missions graceful baroque art and architecture have drawn visitors from all over the world. Now Bernard Fontana the leading expert on San Xavier and award-winning photographer Edward McCain team up to bring us a comprehensive view of the mission as we've never seen it before. With 200 stunning full-color photographs and incisive text illuminating the religious, historical, and motivational context of these images, *A Gift of Angels* is a must-have for tourists, scholars, and other visitors to San Xavier. From its glorious architecture all the way down to the finest details of its art, Mission San Xavier del Bac is indeed a gift of angels.

From Publishers Weekly Weighing in at almost ten pounds, Fontana and McCain's effort promises to be comprehensive, and in some ways it is. The Mission, we learn, was first Jesuit, then Franciscan, was completed in 1797 on the Northern frontier of what was then New Spain and is now outside Tucson, and was built to evangelize the native people, the O'odham, who also provided most of the labor. There follows an overview of the structure and art on display, and a breakdown covering every painting and statue found inside. Fontana, an anthropologist who worships there, discusses each saint depicted in great depth. While not uninteresting, these mini-histories aren't specific to the Mission, and this, coupled with the fact that each artwork is discussed on its own rather than in context, makes it hard to get a sense of the place as a whole. Though the diagrams and photographs are lovely, readers may wish for a better sense of the spirit of the place people call The White Dove of the Desert and the Sistine Chapel of the New World. For that, perhaps, a pilgrimage is in order. 175 color photos. (Oct.) (c) Copyright PWxyz, LLC. All rights reserved. "This remarkable inventory of the church's riches in art, down to the last detail of interior and facade, is splendidly recorded by photographer Edward McCain in addition to Fontana's informative text." California Territorial Quarterly A symphony of words and images and a fitting homage to the early Southwest's greatest architectural monument. This book is a stunning achievement. John P. Schaefer, former president of the University of Arizona and co-founder of the University of Arizona's Center for Creative Photography