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New York's New Edge: Contemporary Art, the High Line, and Urban Megaprojects on the Far West Side

By David Halle, Elisabeth Tiso



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The story of New York's west side no longer stars the Sharks and the Jets. Instead it's a story of urban transformation, cultural shifts, and an expanding contemporary art scene. The Chelsea Gallery District has become New York's most dominant neighborhood for contemporary art, and the streets of the west side are filled with gallery owners, art collectors, and tourists. Developments like the High Line, historical preservation projects like the Gansevoort Market, the Chelsea galleries, and plans for megaprojects like the Hudson Yards Development have redefined what is now being called the "Far West Side" of Manhattan.

David Halle and Elisabeth Tiso offer a deep analysis of the transforming district in *New York's New Edge*, and the result is a new understanding of how we perceive and interpret culture and the city in New York's gallery district. From individual interviews with gallery owners to the behind-the-scenes politics of preservation initiatives and megaprojects, the book provides an in-depth account of the developments, obstacles, successes, and failures of the area and the factors that have contributed to them.



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- Sales Rank: #1165290 in Books
- Published on: 2014-12-09
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.50" w x 6.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 432 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"*New York's New Edge* offers a retrospective on three case studies in urban and cultural development begun under the administration of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg with lessons for Mayor Bill de Blasio."
(*New York Times*)

"*New York's New Edge* is an absolutely brilliant contribution to the sociology of art, urban sociology, and urbanism. This is one of the very best sociological texts that I have read in ages. I highly recommend it to all those who are interested in Manhattan's Far West Side transformations."
(Alain Quemin *Université Paris VIII*)

"Focusing on the now-booming district of the Far West Side, sociologist David Halle and art historian Elisabeth Tiso offer a substantial and eminently sensible analysis of why development in Giuliani and Bloomberg-era Manhattan evolved as it did. Their compelling history of the present, resolutely opposed to sloganeering 'tale-of-two-cities' explanations, reveals through specifics the people and institutional structures involved with area galleries and built environment projects, and the circumstances that resulted in success or failure. All students of cities will learn much from this engrossing book."
(Michele H. Bogart *Stony Brook University*)

"In *New York's New Edge* (the title may be understood literally as referring to the city's far west side and metaphorically) David Halle and Elisabeth Tiso interweave three complex histories: the rise of Chelsea as the world's premier gallery district; iconic preservation projects such as the High Line; and mega real estate projects such as Hudson Yards. Their reading of each is nuanced, cutting through many of the 'accepted wisdoms' of the day. Their purpose is to analyze what makes for a reasonable balance between healthy urban growth and preservation. This book is a must for planners, politicians, and anyone with an interest in the future of cities."
(Harriet F. Senie, author of *The "Tilted Arc" Controversy: Dangerous Precedent?*)

"The link between the contemporary art scene in Chelsea and the development of an edge neighborhood of restaurants, hotels, and new housing is detailed and superbly analyzed by David Halle and Elisabeth Tiso. The preservation of the High Line and creation of the Gansevoort Market Historic District led to extraordinary change. In *New York's New Edge* the relation of cultural identity to people, planning, and politics is made personal and comprehensible by surprising anecdotes and insightful commentary."
(Rick Bell, Executive Director, AIA New York and the Center for Architecture)

"This hefty tome will surely pique the interest of anyone who fancies art, the urban, or how the two come together in the City That Never Sleeps. . . . The authors have done a marvelous job of weaving together their respective specialties—sociology for Halle and art history for Tiso—to produce a text that gives ample consideration to the present as well as to the historical development of a particular slice of the Big Apple. This is a fantastic example of collaboration and interdisciplinarity, and the authors have clearly penned a thoroughly engaging text that ought to have broad appeal to scholars, activists, and avid readers. Highly recommended."
(*Choice*)

About the Author

David Halle is professor of sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles, and director of the summer travel program, UCLA in New York: Cities and Cultures. He is also an adjunct professor at the City University of New York's Graduate Center and School of Professional Studies and the author of *America's Working Man* and *Inside Culture*, also published by the University of Chicago Press. **Elisabeth Tiso** is an art historian who has taught at Parsons, Fordham University, and UCLA in New York. She has published reviews and articles on contemporary art and architecture in *Art in America*, *ArtNews Magazine*, *Parole gelées*, and other academic publications.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frances Carpenter:

This book untitled New York's New Edge: Contemporary Art, the High Line, and Urban Megaprojects on the Far West Side to be one of several books this best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy this book in the book retailer or you can order it via online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you easier to read this book, since you can read this book in your Mobile phone. So there is no reason to you to past this publication from your list.

Brian Crowe:

The actual book New York's New Edge: Contemporary Art, the High Line, and Urban Megaprojects on the Far West Side has a lot associated with on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was written by the very famous author. The author makes some research before write this book. This book very easy to read you can get the point easily after looking over this book.

Amelia Page:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love New York's New Edge: Contemporary Art, the High Line, and Urban Megaprojects on the Far West Side, you may enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout men. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Gerald Velasco:

The book untitled New York's New Edge: Contemporary Art, the High Line, and Urban Megaprojects on the Far West Side contain a lot of information on the idea. The writer explains the girl idea with easy means. The language is very clear to see all the people, so do not necessarily worry, you can easy to read that. The book

was written by famous author. The author brings you in the new time of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or device, so you can read the book throughout anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can start their official web-site in addition to order it. Have a nice go through.

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