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Review: Border Spaces: Visualizing the U.S.-Mexico Frontera, edited by Katherine G. Morrissey and John-Michael H. Warner.

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same chapter Lahti might have used Marguerite Duras's 1984 autobiographical novel *L'Amant* for a brilliant description of European colonial sensibilities about sexual relations between people of different ethnic identities. For a book so concentrated on issues of empire, the absence of the voices and insights of indigenous scholars who study settler colonialism in their cultures is curious.

Lahti concludes that "as a cultural commodity . . . the West is still far from dead" (p. 182), and he provides historians cause for contemplation of contemporary connections across continents. This book will be a particularly useful tool in graduate seminars on the American West, comparative empires, and transnational thinking.

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Border Spaces: Visualizing the U.S.-Mexico Frontera. Edited by Katherine G. Morrissey and John-Michael H. Warner. (Tucson, University of Arizona Press, 2018. 248 pp.)

Border Spaces offers an interdisciplinary examination of the land border between the United States and Mexico beginning with its mapping in the mid-nineteenth century to the present day. Editors and contributors utilize their backgrounds in history and art history to examine issues, including the building of border fences, the management of the natural environment, and political art on the fence itself. The two main questions the volume addresses are as follows: (1) "How has the land border between Mexico and the United States been represented and defined over time?" and (2) "How have state, commercial, regional, and individual interests shaped border spaces?" (p. 6) The book is divided into two parts, with the first composed of historical essays and the second focused on contemporary border art. Each section opens with a conversation between two scholars and offers a dialogue that effectively introduces readers to the topics considered.

Since the boundary surveys of the nineteenth century, states have worked to visualize the border they wish to see. Reports from U.S. surveyors placed monuments defining the boundary and photographed the "smooth, orderly, and continuous borderline" they desired while omitting pre-existing communities that fell outside their vision (p. 53) When diseases threatened U.S. livestock, federal inspectors patrolled the border for "Mexican cattle" and succeeded in winning Arizona ranchers' support for the first federally funded

border fence in 1911 (p. 76). Still, the essays show that the history of the border is not only one of increased state definition. Binational communities transcended borders, and commercial bounds tied the region north and south as the international line cut east and west. In the mid-twentieth century, Cold War geopolitics and capital gains made ardent conservatives such as Barry Goldwater call for a “free” and open border (p. 104). Changing demographics in the United States and the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 replaced hopes of an open border with fear and cries for a border wall as a “last bastion of security in an epic siege” (p. 137). As the United States increasingly defined its border through militarized policing and physical barriers, artists responded through performance art, film projects, and art installations that pushed back against the border wall itself. Federal law prohibits art on the U.S. side of the border, but Mexican authorities allowed their side to be used as a canvas. Thus, wall art in Nogales, Sonora, is both framed by and closed off by U.S. barriers (p. 160).

Border Spaces succeeds in contextualizing borderlands art of today within the long history of human efforts to visualize, define, and defy the U.S.-Mexico divide. The book has a number of black and white photographs, however readers would have benefited from color images of the art works directly considered in the volume as well as a map indicating the location of the sites examined. Still, the clear and concise essays open numerous points of discussion, making the book particularly useful for undergraduate classes on the borderlands.

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Brigham Young and the Expansion of the Mormon Faith. By Thomas G. Alexander. (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 2019. 416 pp.)

Brigham Young played an important role in the expansion of Mormonism, first as one of the Twelve Apostles and then as the second prophet and president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS church). Alexander does not pretend to break new ground in this new biography of Brigham Young but offers up an honest, complete history of Young using primary sources from various archives and his own background as a surveyor (pp. xiii, xv). Alexander situates his work amongst other leading scholars of Mormon history and acknowledges his own positionality as a member of the LDS church. The result is a biography of Young that reveals the humanness