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Candida Höfer: Philadelphia



Synopsis

Philadelphia, the largest city in Pennsylvania, is also one of the country's oldest cities and a place of special historical and national significance: in 1776, the American Declaration of Independence was proclaimed in Philadelphia and in 1787 the constitution was enacted there. Highly symbolic and venerable institutions have a story to tell about the city's 300-year history. In 2007, Candida Hofer selected some of them and explored them with her tried-and-tested approach to photography. The interiors of the Fisher Library, the Girard College, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and the Masonic Temple convey a genuine dignity and representative splendor. Typically of the artist, the photos depict the interiors in a deserted state and a axis-symmetrical view. Among the 13 large-scale color photographs of the Philadelphia Series, there is only one modern building, the Beth Sholom Synagogue.

Book Information

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Schirmer/Mosel (July 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 3829604408

ISBN-13: 978-3829604406

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.2 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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