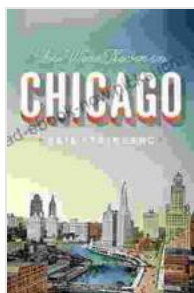


# You Were Never In Chicago: Chicago Visions and Revisions

You Were Never In Chicago: Chicago Visions and Revisions is a groundbreaking exhibition that examines the city's complex history and identity through the lens of local artists. The exhibition, which is on view at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago through March 5, 2023, features a wide range of works that explore themes of race, class, gender, and gentrification.



## You Were Never in Chicago (Chicago Visions and Revisions) by Neil Steinberg

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 993 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Lending	: Enabled
Print length	: 257 pages



The title of the exhibition is a reference to a line from a poem by Gwendolyn Brooks, who was one of Chicago's most celebrated poets. In the poem, Brooks writes, "You were never in Chicago if you never saw the lake." This line can be interpreted in several ways, but it ultimately suggests that there is more to Chicago than meets the eye.

The exhibition *You Were Never In Chicago* takes this idea and runs with it. The works on display offer a nuanced and complex portrait of a city that is often misunderstood.

## **The Exhibition**

The exhibition is divided into four sections: "The City as a Site of Struggle," "The City as a Place of Hope," "The City as a Source of Inspiration," and "The City as a Work of Art." Each section features a different set of works that explore a specific aspect of Chicago.

The first section, "The City as a Site of Struggle," features works that address the city's history of violence, racism, and poverty. These works include paintings, sculptures, and photographs that depict the struggles of everyday people living in Chicago.

The second section, "The City as a Place of Hope," features works that celebrate the city's resilience and spirit. These works include paintings, sculptures, and photographs that depict the beauty and diversity of Chicago.

The third section, "The City as a Source of Inspiration," features works that explore the city's role in shaping the work of local artists. These works include paintings, sculptures, and photographs that reflect the city's influence on the artists' own lives and work.

The fourth and final section, "The City as a Work of Art," features works that explore the city itself as a work of art. These works include paintings, sculptures, and photographs that depict the city's architecture, landscapes, and people.

## **The Artists**

The exhibition features a diverse group of artists who have a deep connection to Chicago. These artists include painters, sculptors, photographers, and other creatives. Their work reflects the city's complex and multifaceted identity.

Some of the most notable artists in the exhibition include:

- Theaster Gates
- Kara Walker
- Kerry James Marshall
- Barbara Kruger
- Jenny Holzer
- Dawoud Bey
- Lorna Simpson
- Sam Durant
- Nick Cave
- Bisa Butler

## **The Impact**

You Were Never In Chicago: Chicago Visions and Revisions has had a profound impact on the city. The exhibition has sparked a dialogue about the city's history, identity, and future. It has also helped to raise awareness of the work of local artists.

The exhibition has been praised by critics and audiences alike. The New York Times called it "a must-see for anyone who wants to understand Chicago." The Chicago Tribune said that the exhibition is "a powerful reminder of the city's resilience and spirit."

You Were Never In Chicago: Chicago Visions and Revisions is a groundbreaking exhibition that has helped to reshape the way we think about Chicago. The exhibition is a must-see for anyone who wants to understand the city's complex and multifaceted identity.

### **Image Descriptions**

- **Image 1:** A photograph of a painting by Theaster Gates. The painting depicts a group of people gathered around a table. The people are all wearing different types of clothing, and they are all engaged in conversation. The painting is titled "The Table."
- **Image 2:** A photograph of a sculpture by Kara Walker. The sculpture depicts a group of black women. The women are all dressed in white dresses, and they are all holding hands. The sculpture is titled "A Subtlety, or the Marvelous Sugar Baby, an Homage to the unpaid and overworked Artisans who have refined our Sweet tastes from the cane fields to the Kitchens of the New World on the Occasion of the demolition of the Domino Sugar Refining Plant."
- **Image 3:** A photograph of a painting by Kerry James Marshall. The painting depicts a group of black children playing in a park. The children are all smiling, and they are all having fun. The painting is titled "Past Times."
- **Image 4:** A photograph of a photograph by Dawoud Bey. The photograph depicts a group of black men standing on a street corner.

The men are all dressed in different types of clothing, and they are all looking at the camera. The photograph is titled "Harlem, USA."



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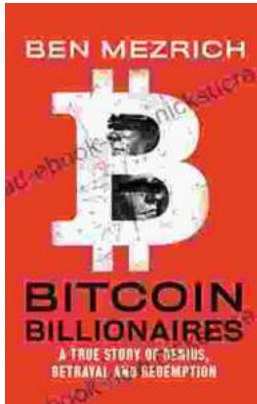
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