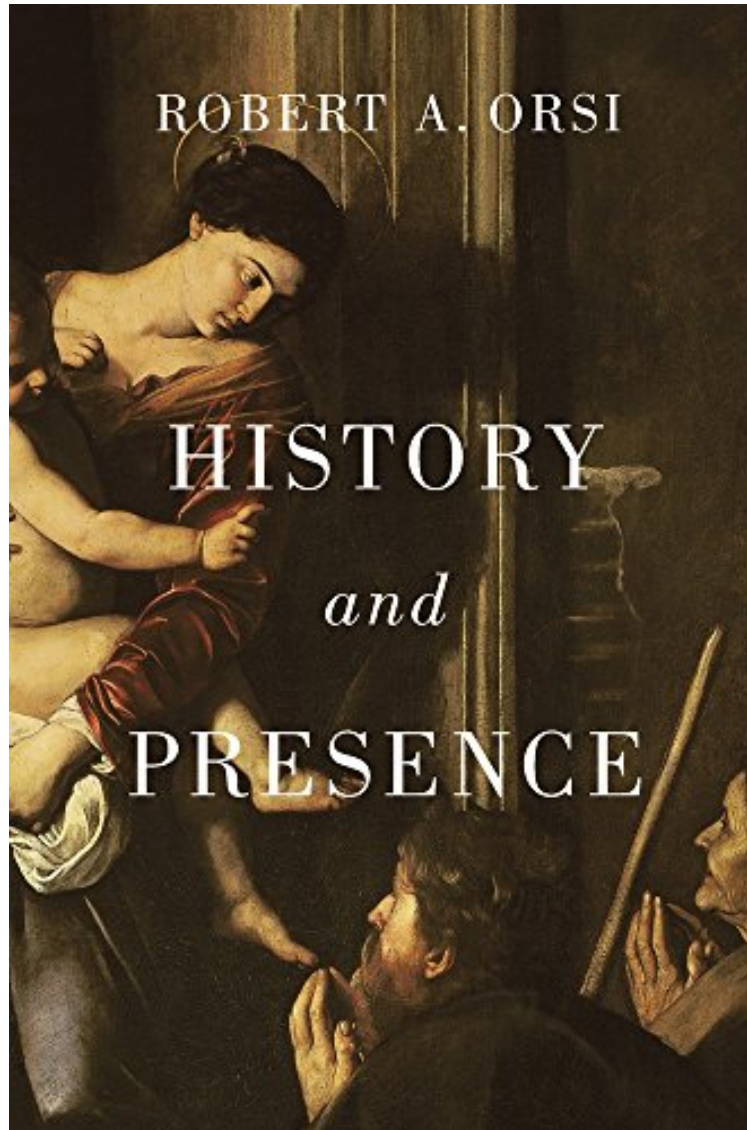


[Pdf free] History and Presence

History and Presence

Robert A. Orsi

*audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#520919 in Books Robert A Orsi 2016-03-29Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.30 x 1.40 x 6.40l, .0 #File Name: 0674047893384 pagesHistory and Presence | File size: 29.Mb

Robert A. Orsi : History and Presence before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised History and Presence:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. What a Wealth of Reflection!By QuintessentiallyYoursThis book is something Catholics - and anyone - who wants to reflect on the Presence, from the Eucharist into remarkable devotionals, really ought to read. The topic is unique; I have never seen something like this range of ideas covered - much less connected to Presence, but also the writing is simply exquisite. Great read. Great gift for the Catholic you

know.4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A Rare Combination: Scholarly and EntertainingBy CustomerFollowing his work in such classics as "The Madonna of 115th Street" and "Between Heaven and Earth," Orsi returns with another valuable contribution to the field of religious studies which still manages to be of interest (entertaining even!) to a wide readership. Orsi writes in a conversational style, using his considerable skill as a storyteller to distill three decades of fieldwork into an intelligent argument about the place of Presence in scholarship. Whether you carry around memories of your Italian Catholic grandmother, or you're unfamiliar with the term transubstantiation, there is something here for everyone; Richly detailed footnotes which tune into ongoing conversations, as well as moving and humorous anecdotes about Catholic life in the 20th century and in the present. Orsi's work is indispensable for those interested in religious studies, history, or theology, and "History and Presence" is a fine addition to the list.0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy John E. BanksThis is a splendid book.

Beginning with metaphysical debates in the sixteenth century over the nature of Christ's presence in the host, the distinguished historian and scholar of religion Robert Orsi imagines an alternative to the future of religion that early moderns proclaimed was inevitable. The question of real presence—the Catholic doctrine of the literal, physical, embodied presence of Christ in the host—coincided with early modern global conquest and commerce and shaped how Europeans encountered the religions of others. The gods really present, in the Catholic sense, were translated into metaphors and symptoms, and into functions of the social and political. Presence became evidence of superstition, of magical thinking, of the infantile and irrational, the primitive and the savage. History and Presence radically confronts this intellectual heritage, proposing instead a model for the study of religion that begins with humans and gods present to each other in the circumstances of everyday life. Orsi then asks what it would mean to write history with the real presence of special beings restored. With reference to Marian apparitions, the cult of the saints, relations with the dead, and other Catholic instances of encounters with the gods really present, Orsi elaborates a theory of presence for the study of both contemporary religion and history. The unseeing of the gods was a foundational requirement of Western modernity. Orsi urges us to withhold from absence the intellectual and spiritual prestige modernity encourages us to give it, and instead to approach history with the gods fully present.

A fiercely inquisitive book on the heart of Roman CatholicismThe bulk of History and Presence concentrates on the perception phenomenon at the back of worldwide cults of saints relics, holy shrines, saints cults, apparitions of Mary, and the like. Through very nimble and wide-ranging research, Orsi lays bare the complex intermingling of faith and psychology that has been a key element of Catholicism for five hundred years. One of the persistent strengths of the book is its keen awareness of the day-to-day meaning of its mysteries for the ordinary people involved. (Steve Donoghue Open Letters Monthly 2016-04-01)With reference to Marian apparitions, the cult of the saints and other divine-human encounters, Orsi constructs a theory of presence for the study of contemporary religion and history. Many interviews with individuals devoted to particular saints and relics are included in this fascinating study of how people process what they believe. (Catholic Herald 2016-03-04)This book is classic Orsi: careful, layered, humane, and subtle If reformed theology has led to the gods' ostensible absence in modern religion, History and Presence is a sort of counter-reformation literature that revels in the excesses of divine materiality: the contradictions, the redundancies, the scrambling of borders between the sacred and profane, the dead and the living, the past and the present, the original and the imitator History and Presence is a thought-provoking, expertly arranged tour of precisely those abundant, excessive phenomena which scholars have historically found so difficult to think. (Sonja Anderson Reading Religion 2016-10-28)[A] brilliant, theologically sophisticated exploration of the Catholic experience of God's presence through the material worldOn every level—from its sympathetic, honest, and sometimes moving ethnography to its astute analytical observation—this book is a scholarly masterpiece. (A. W. Klink Choice 2016-08-01)Orsi recaptures God's breaking into the world through stories that range from tales of saints, such as Bernadette, to common people who directly experienced divine intervention The book does an excellent job of explaining both the difficulties and values inherent in recognizing God in the world. (Publishers Weekly 2016-02-08)This is a meticulously researched, humane, and deeply challenging book. It concerns the people and the groups for whom heaven and earth, life and death are not separated by absolute boundaries. Gods (to use Orsi's term) cross these boundaries. Christ, the Virgin Mary, saints, and the beloved dead remain real presences to many, in a modern world that finds no place for them. The story is set against the background of postwar American Catholicism. It has searing moments of desperate hope and unexpected comfort. It also has moments of sheer horror as when Orsi explores what sexual harassment by priests means to those who saw in priests human gateways to heaven. The men and women studied in this book do not belong to a world we have lost. They belong to a world we have lost sight of. (Peter Brown, Princeton University)Orsi's evoking of the full reality of the holy in the world is extremely moving, shot through with wonder and horror. Speaking of the sanctuary at Chimayo which the present reviewer has also visited Orsi rejects trauma theory. The well of earth is not a metaphor for suffering, a hole in the mind where suffering spills out; instead, the seeming emptiness is in fact full; the hole is paradoxical; Christ is present in the dirt There is much that is specifically

Catholic about the horrors and glories that Orsi sets out in such carefully researched detail. His argument in a short epilogue that we should see all religious history through a matrix of presence is, nonetheless, convincing. (Caroline Walker Bynum Common Knowledge 2017-09-01)About the AuthorRobert A. Orsi is Professor of Religious Studies and History and Grace Craddock Nagle Chair in Catholic Studies at Northwestern University.