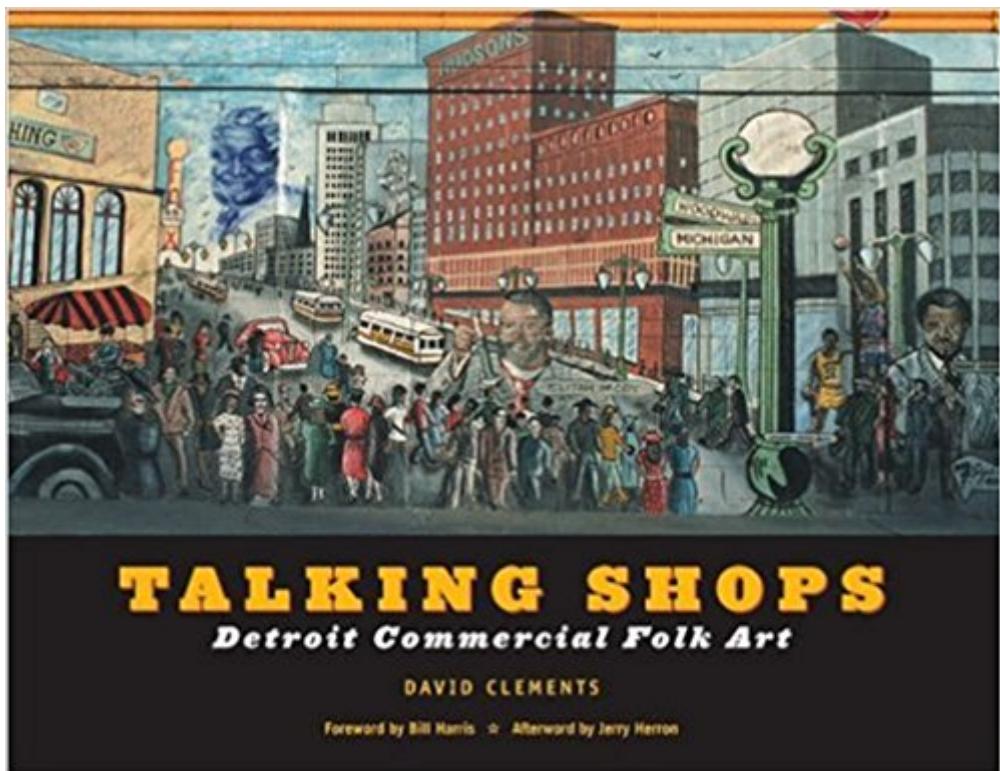


The book was found

Talking Shops: Detroit Commercial Folk Art (Great Lakes Books Series)



Synopsis

Cruise down the inner-city streets of Detroit and your eyes take in an array of familiar images of poverty and decay. What renowned photographer David Clements sees on these gritty Detroit streets are the ad displays on so many local businesses, including salons, churches, and car washes. In Talking Shops, Clements captures mural facades that transform what might have been a typical urban landscape into a canvas for some of the city's most vibrant folk art. With more than 130 full-color photographs, this delightful book uncovers such treasures as the "Mr. Foote Hand Car Wash," and the "Kill Them Dead" roach exterminator. Yet for all their whimsy, these subjects were created by artists who have used brilliant colors, meticulous words, and aggressive messages that seem to talk, if not shout, to passersby.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a good overview of some of the walls signs in Detroit. I found the book informative, but its basically a photo essay. Many of the pictures were or seemed to be wall murals and rarely are the artist or painters mentioned. After reading this book, walking or passing thru Detroit will never be the same, look at the walls. I have found that many other cities have similar books on or about wall signs. Final note: while its a nicely done book, it is not on the same level as "Ghost Signs" by Wm.Stage which takes the reader thru the history and process of walls signs.

As a former native of Detroit, I have seen several of the sites in Mr. Clement's book, Talking Shops: Detroit Commercial Folk Art. His photographs are masterful; clear, crisp and skillfully composed. Clement's deep respect for the art he photographs is apparent. His book pays homage to the spirit and creativity of the people in Detroit.

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