



# Place, Art, and Self

By Yi-Fu Tuan

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## Place, Art, and Self By Yi-Fu Tuan

"What do place, art, and self have in common? To what extent do place and art define who we are?" In *Place, Art, and Self*, the renowned humanistic geographer Yi-Fu Tuan tackles this large question in a small, accessible, beautifully illustrated book. Through memoir and the insights gained from a peripatetic life as an international scholar, Tuan explores the idea of attachment through place and art and the role of attachment in shaping, defining, and expanding the self.

Inasmuch as a place contains sources of "nurture and identity," Tuan writes, so, too, does a painting, photograph, poem, novel, motion picture, dance, or piece of music. "The arts are likewise emblematic and revelatory. The ones I strongly like and dislike expose me, make me feel naked before the public eye, which is why I am guarded in my confessions."

Drawing from a lifetime spent thinking and writing about the connection between geography and our spiritual needs, Tuan presents a compelling and meditative foray into how place, home, and homelessness condition us as humans. Complementing his essay is a gallery of fine-art black-and-white and color plates by four emerging contemporary photographers, whose work accords with Tuan's message.

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## Place, Art, and Self By Yi-Fu Tuan Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Tuan gives us a way of seeing the world that illuminates the relatedness of its parts?and, in doing so, he makes geography absolutely essential.

(J. Nicholas Entrikin, University of California, Los Angeles)

#### About the Author

Yi-Fu Tuan is professor emeritus of geography at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He is the author of many books including "Place, Art and, Self, Dear Colleague: Common and Uncommon Observations", and "Who am I?: An Autobiography of Emotion, Mind, and Spirit".

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