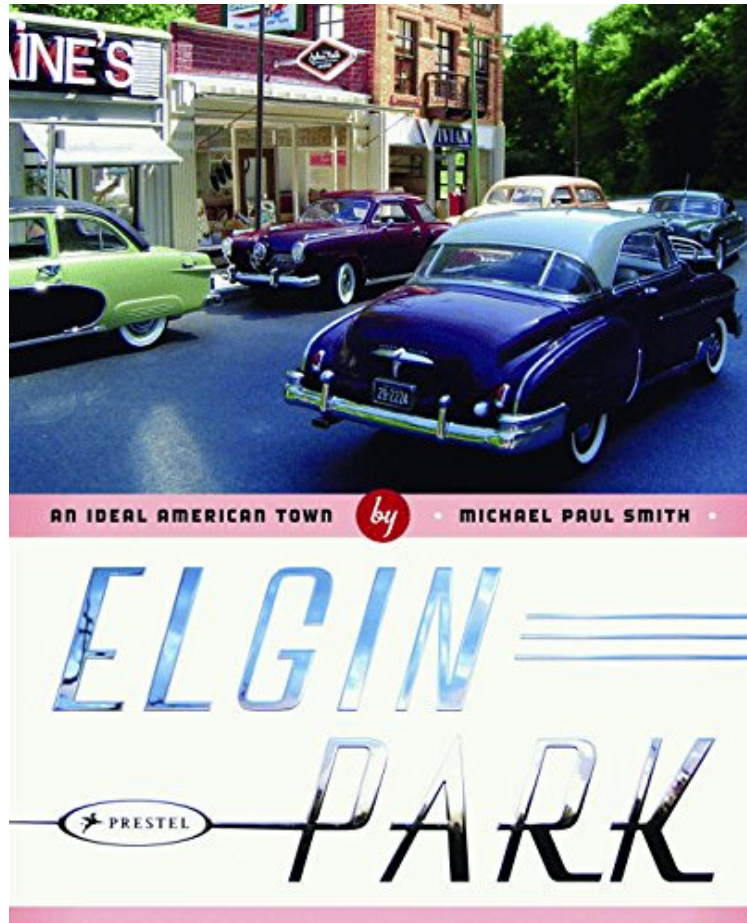


[FREE] Elgin Park: An Ideal American Town

Elgin Park: An Ideal American Town

Michael Paul Smith, Gail Ellison
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Michael Paul Smith, Gail Ellison : Elgin Park: An Ideal American Town before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Elgin Park: An Ideal American Town:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars May Not Be Enough! By Julie Kay Smithson This is a spectacular book that conveys to the reader/viewer the "days of yore" in the middle of the twentieth century through the trifecta of the town of "Elgin Park," borrowed from author Michael Paul Smith's hometown of Sewickley, Pennsylvania; many die-cast cars and trucks; and the combination of model buildings, real backgrounds and Smith's uncanny eye for photographing that gives each of us a different "ticket" into a past that is integral Americana. My own childhood years involved many/most of these cars/trucks/buildings, so it's with delight that I turn each page of an almost real-life time and place. I cannot too highly recommend this masterpiece that is tucked like a rare and priceless gem between the pages of a high-quality hardcover book. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The Mid-Century Recaptured in an Imaginary Town By Steven E. Frenkel Elgin Park is a special volume dedicated to the nostalgia many of us have for a period in America that is fading away at a rapid pace. Michael Paul Smith has

constructed an imaginary small town and photographed his fantastic model car collection within its framework. This is an exceptional tour de force. The photos are almost impossible to tell from those of actual full-sized cars and structures. Anyone who loves cars, mid-century Americana, architectural models, great photography and craftsmanship, will love this volume. The introductory text is lively and tells the story of this unique man, without being at all tedious. A totally delightful book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. niceBy d76stevererecreation of small town America

The imagined city of Elgin Park, a magically realistic evocation of a midcentury American town, has captured the hearts of millions of web visitors and now appears in book form. You won't find the town of Elgin Park on a map, but you will find it all over the web and in the media. Called an Internet phenomenon by the New York Times, Michael Paul Smith's Flickr site has received over 20 million hits since he first posted his convincing yet dreamlike photographs of an imaginary town, inspired by the small Pennsylvania one he grew up in. Viewers of all ages from across the world will respond to the memories and feelings evoked by his perfectly executed miniature street scenes with model vintage cars, which are photographed outdoors against actual backgrounds. Without digital manipulation, Smith creates wondrously realistic scenes, which are beautifully reproduced in this exquisite volume. Gail Ellison, a longtime colleague of the artist, explains Smith's ingenious methods and also uncovers the themes of his art.

From the Inside FlapThe imagined city of Elgin Park, a magically realistic evocation of a midcentury American town, has captured the hearts of millions of web visitors and now appears in book form. You won't find the town of Elgin Park on a map, but you will find it all over the web and in the media. Called an Internet phenomenon by the New York Times, Michael Paul Smith's Flickr site has received over 20 million hits since he first posted his convincing yet dreamlike photographs of an imaginary town, inspired by the small Pennsylvania one he grew up in. About the AuthorMichael Paul Smith was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His model-making skills are the accumulation of numerous jobs he has had, including textbook illustrator, wallpaper hanger, housepainter, and architectural model maker. He lives in New England. Gail K. Ellison teaches at the University of Florida College of Medicine, works as Writer-in-Residence with the Shands Arts in Medicine program, and offers workshops for caregivers and students.