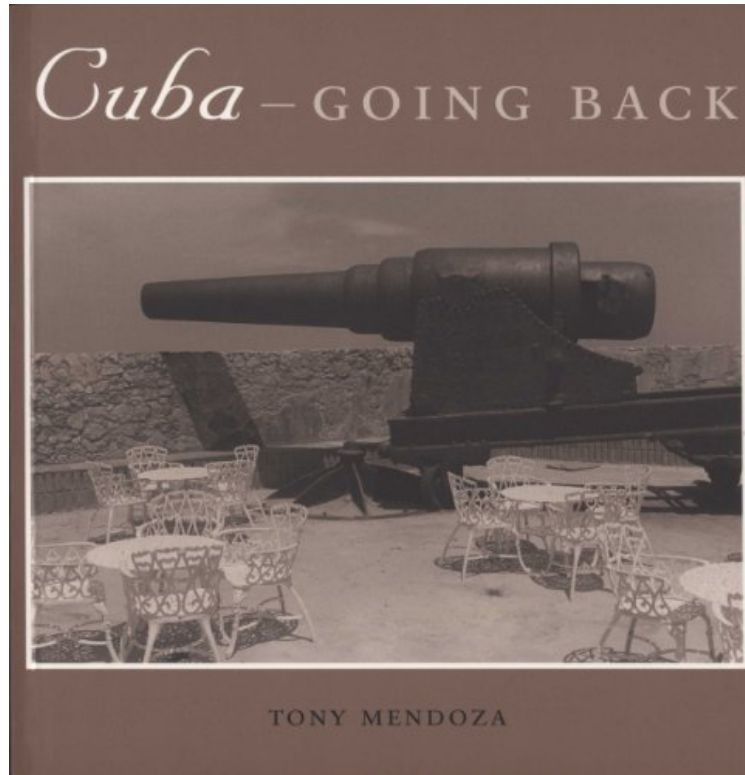


Cuba--Going Back

Tony Mendoza

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Tony Mendoza : Cuba--Going Back before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cuba--Going Back:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great photographer, excellent bookBy doug kortyTony Mendoza is an extraordinary photographer and has a unique gift for clear, and unpretentious writing. I hope that he will publish a book of his best photographs which are spectacular. I also hope he and his wife have an opportunity to return to a democratic and free Cuba soon.He put a great deal of work into this book, taking detailed notes on 200 conversations and reading many years of Fidel's speeches. He presents a lot of information about the conditions and opinions of the people in Cuba. He seems to be objective and intelligent in his presentation. It is a sad picture of what went wrong with the revolution that overthrew the corrupt and bloody Batista dictatorship. It doesn't answer many questions about why this tragedy happened but it gives a broad picture of what exists, including excellent photographs. Other books worth reading about Cuba:Brenner, Philip, Marguerite Rose Jimeacut;nez, John M. Kirk, A Contemporary Cuba Reader: The Revolution under Rauacut;l Castro, Rowman Littlefield Publishers; Second Edition, 2014Chomsky, Aviva, Barry Carr, Pamela Maria Smorkaloff, The Cuba Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The Latin America Readers), Duke University Press Books, 2004Cooke, Julia, The Other Side of Paradise: Life in the New Cuba, Seal Press, 2014Frank, Marc, Cuban Revelations: Behind the Scenes in Havana (Contemporary Cuba), University Press of Florida, 2013Gjelten, Tom, Bacardi and the Long Fight for Cuba: The Biography of a Cause, Penguin Books; Reprint edition, 2009Latell, Brian, After Fidel: The Inside Story of Castro's Regime and Cuba's Next Leader, Palgrave Macmillan Trade; Second Edition, Revised edition, 2007LeoGrande, William M. and Peter Kornbluh, Back Channel

to Cuba: The Hidden History of Negotiations between Washington and Havana, The University of North Carolina Press, 2014 Sanchez, Yoani, M. J. Porter (Translator), Havana Real: One Woman Fights to Tell the Truth about Cuba Today, Melville House, 2011 Sweig, Julia E., Cuba: What Everyone Needs to Know reg., Second Edition, Oxford University Press; 2 edition, 2013 Midwest Independent Research, educational websites. mwir-improvements.blogspot.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. In-depth Look at Cuba By Kipper My husband and I just returned from a trip to Cuba and found this book to be thoughtful and insightful regarding the situation in Cuba in the late 1990's. It is clear that Cuba is in transition at the current time and changes have occurred from the time the book was written. However, the book gives a great background of those remaining in Cuba as well as those who left. Tony Mendoza gives an extremely fair accounting of the many people he interviews during his stay. The in-depth quality of his interviews, plus his own recounting of his boyhood in this lovely land is deeply moving. The Cuban people are amazingly resourceful, and this comes across beautifully in this book. The photographs are also quite illuminating. We would recommend this book to anyone interested in Cuba, especially to those who are lucky enough to travel to this beautiful country.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Cuba as a returning Cuban saw it By Marilyn Kay Wargo The buildings remain like husks in Havana from Tony Mendoza's childhood when the revolution sent many Cubans of means to the USA. But his grandfather's house was alive and in use. This is nostalgic and revealing what the country has been through under Castro. Unique perspectives and memories throughout. Mar Wargo

Imagine being unable to return to your homeland for thirty-six years. What would you do if you finally got a chance to go back? In 1996, after travel restrictions between the United States and Cuba were relaxed, Cuban exile Tony Mendoza answered that question. Taking his cameras, notebooks, and an unquenchable curiosity, he returned for his first visit to Cuba since summer of 1960, when he emigrated with his family at age eighteen. In this book he presents over eighty evocative photographs accompanied by a beautifully written text that mingles the voices of many Cubans with his own to offer a compelling portrait of a resilient people awaiting the inevitable passing of the socialist system that has failed them. His photographs and interviews bear striking witness to the hardships and inequalities that exist in this workers' "paradise," where the daily struggle to make ends meet on an average income of eight dollars a month has created a longing for change even in formerly ardent revolutionaries. At the same time, Cuba's Going Back is an eloquent record of a personal journey back in time and memory that will resonate with viewers and readers both within and beyond the Cuban American community. It belongs on the shelves of anyone who values excellent photography and well-crafted prose.

From Library Journal In 1996 after a 36-year absence, Mendoza--a photographer by trade--returned to his native Cuba. This book, based on the photos and interviews he conducted on his trip, is a remarkable first-hand account of today's Cuba. Burdened both by the loss of Soviet aid and the American embargo, he concludes, Cuba is a testimony to the failure of Castro's socialism. He reports that he encountered very few Castro supporters and found numerous Cubans willing to speak out against the failed social experiment. He often heard them say "Fidel is no economist"--something he reflects upon through the lens of his camera. Like others, Mendoza decides that Cubans would be better off if the United States did not push so hard for an end to Castro and left him alone to deal with failure. Similar to Andrei Codrescu's *Ay, Cuba!* (LJ 3/1/99), this volume is best summarized in a series of photos of a Havana park bench. In each succeeding photo, the bench, much like Cuba, is dismantled by time and the very people it aims to please. Highly recommended for most libraries.-Boyd Childress, Auburn Univ.Lib., AL Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. "As with all of Tony Mendoza's work, this book has great depth and layers of poignancy ... tragic undertones of a paradise lost ... and yet we hold onto the dream of illumination." --Andy Garcia About the Author Tony Mendoza is the author of four books, including the highly acclaimed *Stories and Ernie: A Photographer's Memoir*. He lives in Columbus, Ohio, where he teaches photography at Ohio State University.