



**THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY:  
DESIGN AND PERSUASION**

Edited by Tim Culvabouse, A '79  
Princeton Architectural Press

**OVERVIEW:** This collection of essays and images explores the architectural work built by the Tennessee Valley Authority during the late 1930s and early 1940s. In the wake of the Great Depression, the TVA set out to modernize the region by generating electricity, flood control and economic development. *The Tennessee Valley Authority: Design and Persuasion* examines how the TVA used a comprehensive architecture program to propagate its own social, political and aesthetic agenda and “unexpectedly created the finest extended body of modernist architecture in the United States.”

**MARGINALIA:** A visit to Knoxville, Tenn., affords the most compact introduction to the broadly distributed TVA system. From Knoxville, one can easily visit four TVA sites: Norris Dam and Norris Town, Cherokee and Douglas Dams, Fontana Dam and Watts Bar Dam. All are located within 50 miles of Knoxville.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** “You might say of the Tennessee Valley Authority that the landscape was both its medium and its message. In the space of a dozen years, the agency completely remade the physical, social and technological terrain of a seven-state region roughly the size of Ohio. Its immediate impact was huge, but the ripple effects of its efforts were even greater: the TVA radically redefined contemporary ideas about what a landscape is and what it can mean.”



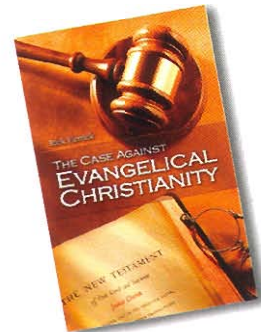
**REFRAMING LATIN AMERICA**

By Christina Buckley, G '94, Erik Ching and  
Angélica Lozano-Aalonso  
University of Texas Press

**OVERVIEW:** *Reframing Latin America* seeks to define and explain the basics of postmodernism and demonstrate its usefulness in interpreting 19th- and 20th-century Latin America. Along the way it hopes to demystify the jargon of cultural theory and provide an introduction to cultural studies in general. More specifically, the book offers an anthology of essential readings from Latin American writers of the last two centuries presented with insightful commentary. Several “forays” into Latin American cinema round out this interdisciplinary guide for theorists and novices alike.

**MARGINALIA:** Christina Buckley is an associate professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Literature Department at Furman University. Along with colleagues from the Spanish and history departments, she team-teaches an interdisciplinary humanities course in Latin American narrative and identity. *Reframing Latin America* grew out of the materials from this course.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** “For the past two hundred years, Latin America, like most of the rest of the world during that time, has been dominated by modernist conceptualizations of identity and modernist attempts to discern ontological truths. Whether or not they set out with the purposeful and conscious intent to do so, virtually every author during the modernist era participated in a broad project of seeking out the truth about Latin America.”



**THE CASE AGAINST EVANGELICAL  
CHRISTIANITY**

By Rick Herrick, G '77  
Charles River Press

**OVERVIEW:** *The Case Against Evangelical Christianity* does not so much challenge the divinity or teachings of Christ as it does the beliefs of many of his followers. Author Rick Herrick takes to task the fundamentalist belief that the Bible in its entirety is historically accurate, an inerrant record of God’s unique word. Herrick, who is a Christian, prefers to see the Bible as far more complex and human book and asserts that a careful reading of the Bible does not support core Evangelical beliefs.

**MARGINALIA:** Herrick, a former tenured university professor and magazine editor, is the author of two published novels: *An Uncommon Woman* and *A Week in October*.

**QUOTABLE QUOTE:** “Evangelicals believe the Gospels, including the resurrection story, were written by eyewitnesses to the events. Can you imagine that two eyewitnesses, Matthew and Luke, encountering the most incredible event ever alleged to have taken place in human history—the physical return to life of a dead human being—are differing as to where the event took place? I cannot.”