

The World My Way

By Glenn Currier

"It is our function as artists to make the spectator see the world our way not his." - Mark Rothko

To have the guts like Sinatra's to declare
through regrets, tears and despair
"I got through it all and did it my way"
Oh, to trust the power in me and stay
always authentic and true
to my point of view
no matter how out of sync
or what proper poets think

The Rothko chapel with its paintings of black
took me completely aback
they seemed non-paintings to me
but I sat in the changing light and could see
the artistry in that quiet urban place
I could feel his gentle grace
he forced me to see his world
in his hues and strokes and curls

A Rothko or Sinatra I am not
but if in my lines are caught
the sweet or dark breath of my muse
if I speak in my voice with its hues
maybe a whiff of spirit there
will cast a piece of my soul and snare
someone's musing causing *them* to write
and fling out *their* world in *their* light.

Author's Note: The Rothko Chapel is on the University of St. Thomas campus in Houston, Texas. It is an irregular octagonal brick building with gray or rose stucco walls and a baffled skylight. It serves as a place of meditation as well as a meeting hall and is furnished with eight simple, moveable benches for meditative seating. About 55,000 people visit the chapel each year. Fourteen of Rothko's paintings are displayed in the chapel. Three walls display [trptychs](#), while the other five walls display single paintings. Beginning in 1964, Rothko began painting a series of black paintings, which incorporated other dark hues and texture effects. [Based on article in Wikipedia]

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