

Overall, this is a very strong and important book which should be read in Canada and beyond. Across the circumpolar North, we still have a long way to go with offering apologies, reparations, and healing for the violence on individuals perpetrated through the residential schooling system; Fraser's book can help us understand what still needs to be done.

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DIANE HIRSHBERG

*L.A. Interchanges: A Brown and Queer Archival Memoir.* By Lydia R. Otero. (Planet Earth Press, 2023. 194 pp.)

*L.A. Interchanges* provides a refreshing counterpoint to white male biases in LGBTQ history as well as histories of Los Angeles. It offers a Latine/x queer feminist perspective that skillfully blends political activist history, queer cultural geography, labor analysis, and Lydia Otero's autobiographical details. It is not comprehensive in any sense, nor does it intend to be, but its fragmentary glimpses of Los Angeles will benefit a broad range of scholars in LGBTQ, social, political, feminist, ethnic, and cultural history.

Born in Tucson in 1955, Otero frequently visited Los Angeles as a child and became enamored with the "faces of people of different ethnicities" and "gender outlaws" encountered there (p. 3). Otero moved to L.A. in 1978 and quickly became involved with several political organizations including Lesbians of Color, Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos, and Lesbianas Unidas. The book emphasizes the micro-activism of these organizations: small, easily overlooked details in group dynamics, organizing methods, and internal conflicts. Otero describes getting scolded by older separatist Chicana lesbians, for example, for having a photo of TV's *The Odd Couple* displayed on a wall (no men! they insisted) as well as receiving a chilly reception at a Chicana feminist conference because of Otero's unapologetic queer visibility. Yet ultimately, political activism brought "camaraderie and joy . . . in celebrating ourselves and each other" (p. III). Otero made friends through activism and met people from diverse backgrounds.

Meanwhile, Otero worked at a bank downtown before moving onto a better-paying electrician apprenticeship which gave pride and satisfaction working on LA's skyscrapers and other large projects. Otero encountered occasional moments of prejudice on worksites but overall found acceptance among the straight white male union members who provided training and helped Otero establish a career. After work, Otero relaxed by going to gay

dance clubs, especially the legendary Catch-One club, and took in movies and visited bookstores. Otero avoided bars, and the book's analysis of LA's queer social geography outside of the bar scene is original and insightful, especially in the ways it overlapped with the author's political activism.

*L.A. Interchanges* is peppered with several dozen reproductions of primary source documents such as activist flyers, organizational documents, and personal photographs that enhance the book's immersive and visual nature. These sources and photos offer unique opportunities for incorporating the book into lectures and student projects. They also remind readers that history depends upon archival records and that marginalized groups are underrepresented in traditional archives. Otero's historical memoir will probably not rewrite any major points on the history of Los Angeles or LGBTQ history; but the author's life, analytical insights, and archival sources point toward more complex narratives still waiting to be discovered.

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CRAIG M. LOFTIN

*Three Years Our Mayor: George Moscone and the Making of Modern San Francisco.* By Lincoln A. Mitchell. (University of Nevada Press, 2025. xiv + 432 pp.)

Lincoln Mitchell deftly presents “the making of modern San Francisco,” i.e., the emergence in the 1960s of a progressive voting coalition and its role in city politics then and since. George Moscone was a key player in creating that coalition. Moscone's “three years our mayor,” which were ended by an assassin in November 1978, account for 64 of the 360 pages.

Mitchell begins with the city's Italian neighborhoods where Moscone was born and grew up. A star on St. Ignatius High School's championship basketball team, Moscone served in the Navy before graduating from the College of the Pacific. In law school in San Francisco in the mid-1950s, Moscone met Willie Brown, a Black migrant from segregated Texas, who introduced Moscone to John and Phil Burton, rising political organizers.

The late 1950s and 1960s saw growing activism in San Francisco's neighborhoods: campaigns against plans to ram freeways through residential neighborhoods, against high-rise buildings in low-density neighborhoods, against the Redevelopment Agency's bulldozing of neighborhoods. This neighborhood activism overlapped with mobilizing against local hearings by the House Un-American Activities Committee and civil rights