



Photo: Courtesy of Somos Un Pueblo Unido

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Dr. Aimee Villarreal, a Santa Fe native, is Associate Professor of Comparative Mexican American Studies at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas.

Sanctuaryscapes in the New Mexico Borderlands

Sanctuary gets pulled in different and often opposing directions. Refugees seek it, politicians exploit it, immigrant rights advocates claim it, and religious communities revive it. Anthropologist, Aimee Villarreal introduces a time-traveling concept, *Sanctuaryscapes*, to illuminate distinct mobilizations of sanctuary in the New Mexico borderlands from church asylum and Indigenous regions of refuge during the Spanish colonial period, to the radical 1980s faith-based sanctuary movements that inspired the establishment of sanctuary cities and states, to immigrant-led social justice and religious revitalization movements today.



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