

Published in Association of Jewish Libraries Reviews, September/October, 2011, p. 18.

Kessler, Herbert L. and David Nirenberg, eds. *Judaism and Christian Art: Aesthetic Anxieties from the Catacombs to Colonialism*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2011. 456 pp. \$69.95 (9780812242850)

This rich, sophisticated, rewarding collection of essays examines the way Christian art has depicted Jews and Judaism. It covers many time periods and countries. Christian art inherits both a certain Hebraic suspicion of imagery and also the tradition of Hebrew decorative art connected with the temple, and the resulting tension is one of the book's themes. One drawback of this volume is that none of the reproductions are in color. The book is more focused on Christianity, so, as far as Judaica collections are concerned, it will probably be relevant only for academic libraries that include coverage of depiction of Jews or Judaism. It is quite relevant for larger academic art history collections, however.

Shmuel Ben-Gad, Gelman Library, George Washington University, Washington, DC