

## Marian Pastor Roces, GATHERING

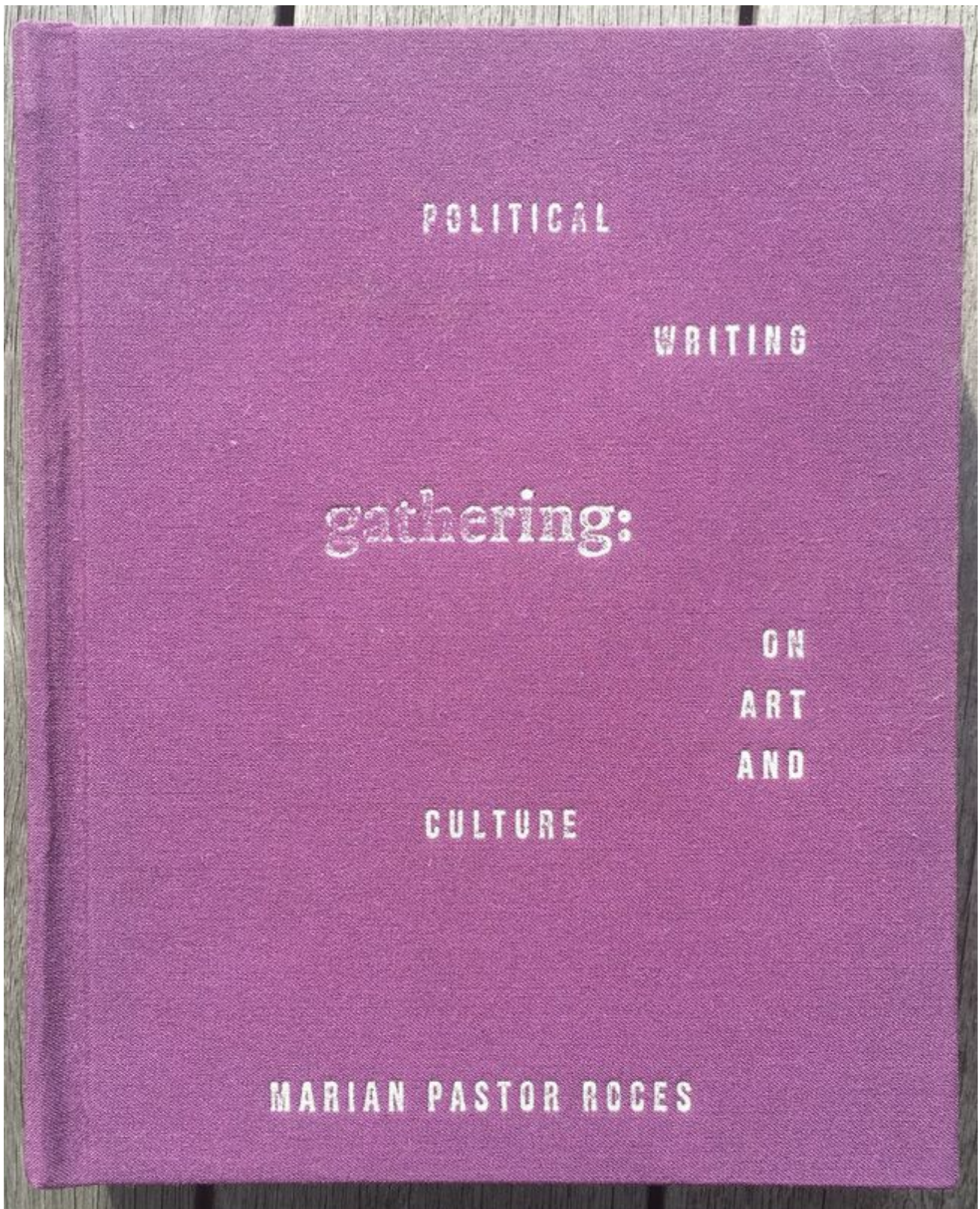
**Beverly Yong**

*Gathering* is a collection of 43 essays on art and culture by Marian Pastor Roces, dating from 1974 to 2018.

The looming figure of Marian Pastor Roces might be described as art historian, curator, museum expert, cultural theorist, public intellectual, yet it seems fitting that this first volume of writings chosen by her represents the author as a critic – a political writer on art and culture.

The essays here – reviews, journal articles, symposium papers, essays in books and exhibition publications – take on a formidable line-up of subjects. There are essays staking giant claims, on “The Necessity of the Craft Problematic”, “The Politics of Beauty”, “Nation, Comparison, and the Spectre of Art”; “Consider Post-Culture”. Equally, close, informed readings, whether of an art exhibition, a theatre performance, a conversation, or art criticism in the Philippines, seamlessly unfold to address broader contexts, demystifying and rethinking models of art-culture-life-society-institutions-power, and exploring the language required to build these anew.

The publisher describes the author as “one of the most original and unapologetic thinkers of the region”. One reviewer testifies, “With each sentence, Roces elicits rousing revolutionary sentiments in the reader.” Not a book for the faint-hearted.



**Source:**

Marian Pastor Roces, *Gathering: Political Writing on Art and Culture* Marian Pastor Roces, editor: Sam L Marcelo, Introduction by Elena Rivera Mirano, Foreword by Rustom Bharucha (Manila: De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde, 2019)

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- <https://artreview.com/ara-winter-2019-book-gathering-political-writing-on-art-and-culture>