



You may want to spread your wings after looking through 'Florida . . . Beyond the Blue Horizon' (clockwise from top), 'Mobile Mansions' and 'New York Sketchbook.'

ROBERTO GONZALEZ/
ORLANDO SENTINEL

Crack a book and hear the call of exotic birds, the whine of an engine or the rhythms of a city. Your mind takes off — now all you have to do is pack the suitcases.

FLIGHTS of FANCY

Images on their pages draw us in, and suddenly we know: There are travel books, and then there are books that make us want to travel.

A photographer elegantly maps Florida with scenes of majestic herons, shrimp-boat nets in silhouette at sunrise and a house that has surrendered to a forest of palms. Another charms with a pop-culture ode to

the home-on-wheels, from campers to converted, Partridge Family-style buses to luxury digs with porches and balconies. And a Frenchman's portrait of New York City, in pencil and watercolor, leaves a vivid impression.

Three recent books tempt readers to pack up and go, if only for a spin through their pages.

Camera's colorful perspective

By TOM BURTON
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

There are times in Florida when the humidity drops and the clouds clear, leaving only vibrant blue overhead. Snapshots by tourists show a sky so intense that their neighbors back home can't

believe it's true.

It is true, but the color palette of Florida spreads deeper and richer in ways that take more than a summer vacation to discover.

Early in the morning, misty fog over a farm glows

PLEASE SEE **HORIZON, K6**

Florida . . . Beyond the Blue Horizon

Photos by Alan S. Maltz, with introduction by Herb Hiller. Light Flight Publications; \$65; 168 pages, 171 photos.

The call of the open highway

By STEVEN COLE SMITH
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

Thumb through *Mobile Mansions* and land on a passage that begins "Antti Rahko, a mechanic by trade, welded two 1983 Mercedes station wagons together," and you have my attention.

Rahko, a Finnish immigrant living in South Florida, created a 30-foot-long motorhome, er, thing that has a wind-activated generator, a refrigerator, a stove, patio lights and a sign in the rear window that reads

PLEASE SEE **MANSIONS, K4**

Mobile Mansions: Taking Home Sweet Home on the Road

By Douglas Keister. Gibbs Smith; \$24.95, 160 pages.

Drawn to New York charm

By TERRY IRWIN
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

First, a confession: A thoughtfully illustrated book about New York has been lying on my desk since January. I know I should have offered it to a colleague to review, but . . . no. Years ago,

between my growth years in Iowa and rising-up years in Florida lived in Manhattan, one room the size of a box. I have lots of memories and, still, little. I have been tem

PLEASE SEE **NEW**

New York Sketchbook

Text by Jerome Charyn, paintings by Fabrice M. St. Martin's Press; \$30; 96 pages.

K6 Orlando Sentinel

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Maltz captures state in fresh light

HORIZON FROM K1

a rich orange from the rising sun. Across the state, blue herons defy their name, showing shades of ochre on their necks, and egrets reflect light in a brilliant white glow.

Caribbean-inspired architecture in South Florida is awash in vibrant hues. Beach houses at Seaside, in the Panhandle, are the softer pastels of a sky one good story past sunset.

Photographer Alan S. Maltz has captured these scenes and more in Florida . . . Beyond the Blue Horizon, a large-format coffee-table book that takes readers on a trip beyond the usual postcards and snapshots of Florida.

Maltz brings a lot to the journey. His signature is a keen awareness of light, and he captures moments when the Florida sun's illumination is perfect. Colors are central to his compositions, and each page of the book is vibrant.

It is a sensitivity developed through dedication.

The introduction by Florida author Herb Hiller describes Maltz's routine on the day of a shoot: He arrives at the location before dawn, moving effortlessly through the scene, capturing photos for three or four hours before he's hungry



'FLORIDA . . . BEYOND THE BLUE HORIZON'

'Vanishing in Time, Florida City' by Alan S. Maltz exhibits a powerful sense of light and composition.

enough to stop for breakfast.

His photos have a sense of light and composition that is difficult to achieve in the often-photographed subject areas of travel and nature. Even if his subjects are well-visited, his photos are unique.

This book covers the state, which is an expansion for

Maltz. His previous books, *Miami City of Dreams* and *Key West Color*, were drawn from scenes closer to his home in the lower Florida Keys.

If there is a flaw, it's that the book could have used a little editing. A few — very few — pages include less-intriguing photographs, such as a two-

page collection of fishing-trip photos.

But these are easily forgotten in comparison with the richer photos throughout this book.

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