

# The Boston Globe

CRITIC'S NOTEBOOK

## These works of art show why cities will endure

By [Mark Feeney](#) Globe Staff, Updated April 22, 2021, 2:00 p.m.



Arthur Drooker, "Los Angeles City Hall," from "City Hall." ©ARTHUR DROOKER

Boston City Hall — the one in the Wiseman documentary — is among the buildings Arthur Drooker photographed for his book **“City Hall.”** “I selected fifteen city halls that best represent a range of styles, from Federal to modern,” he writes. Organized chronologically, the book begins with New York City Hall, which dates to 1812, and ends with the futuristic-looking Las Vegas City Hall.

The photographs are handsome, and the stories often surprising. Who knew that Milwaukee’s city hall has a stunning central atrium? Or that San Francisco City Hall’s dome is 42 feet higher than the US Capitol’s? Gardens atop Chicago City Hall opened in 2001 (the building dates to 1911), a reminder of how city halls evolve and change no less than cities themselves do.