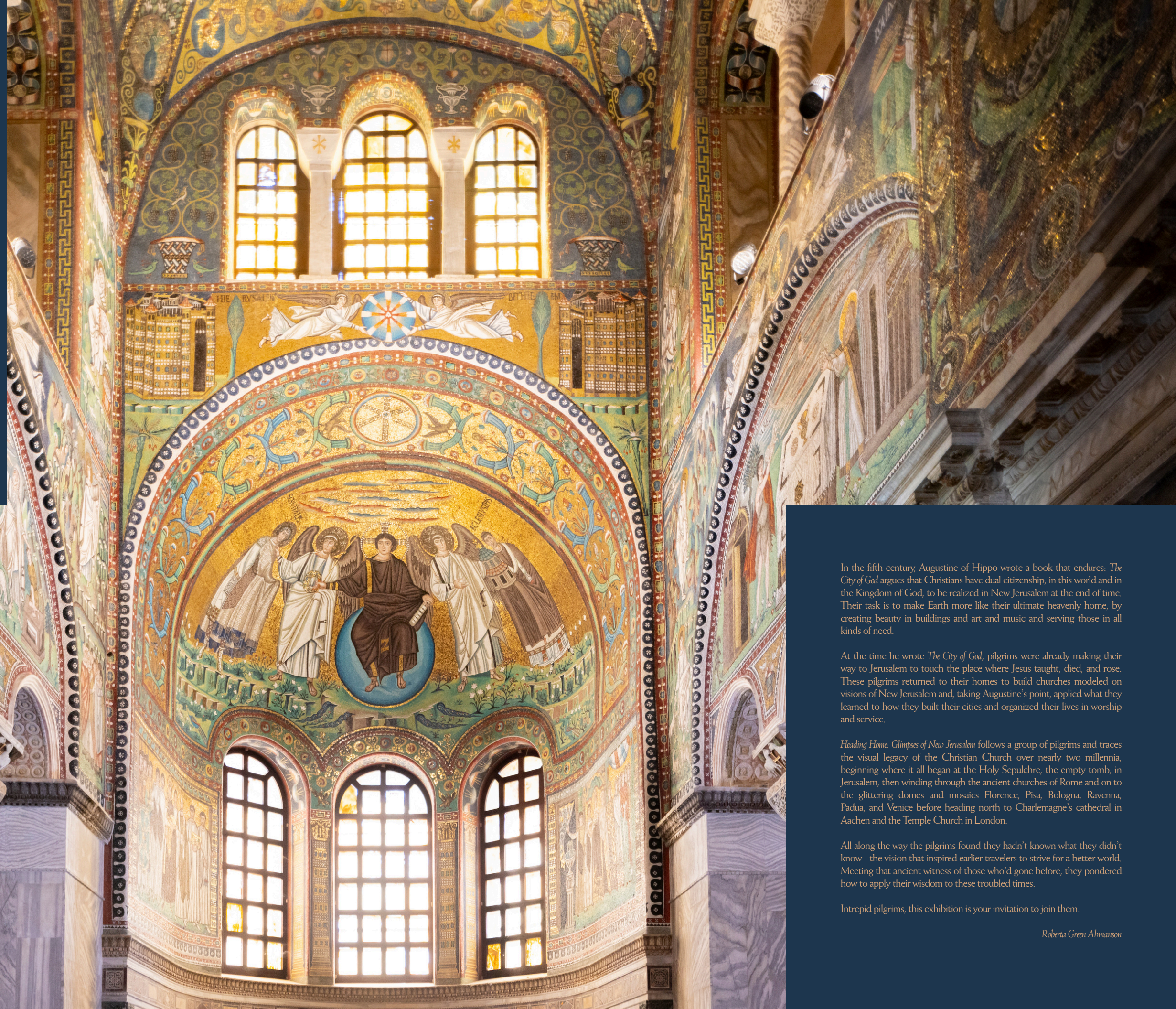


# HEADING • HOME: GLIMPSES • OF NEW • JERUSALEM



EXHIBITION GUIDE



In the fifth century, Augustine of Hippo wrote a book that endures: *The City of God* argues that Christians have dual citizenship, in this world and in the Kingdom of God, to be realized in New Jerusalem at the end of time. Their task is to make Earth more like their ultimate heavenly home, by creating beauty in buildings and art and music and serving those in all kinds of need.

At the time he wrote *The City of God*, pilgrims were already making their way to Jerusalem to touch the place where Jesus taught, died, and rose. These pilgrims returned to their homes to build churches modeled on visions of New Jerusalem and, taking Augustine's point, applied what they learned to how they built their cities and organized their lives in worship and service.

*Heading Home. Glimpses of New Jerusalem* follows a group of pilgrims and traces the visual legacy of the Christian Church over nearly two millennia, beginning where it all began at the Holy Sepulchre, the empty tomb, in Jerusalem, then winding through the ancient churches of Rome and on to the glittering domes and mosaics Florence, Pisa, Bologna, Ravenna, Padua, and Venice before heading north to Charlemagne's cathedral in Aachen and the Temple Church in London.

All along the way the pilgrims found they hadn't known what they didn't know - the vision that inspired earlier travelers to strive for a better world. Meeting that ancient witness of those who'd gone before, they pondered how to apply their wisdom to these troubled times.

Intrepid pilgrims, this exhibition is your invitation to join them.

Roberta Green Abmanson



The Christian life is a pilgrimage to New Jerusalem. In this exhibition, photographer Kieran Dodds, who travelled with a group of pilgrims in July 2022—including Samford’s President Beck A. Taylor and his wife Julie—captures riveting views of churches that trace the revealed Christian story as it moves from Jerusalem to London.

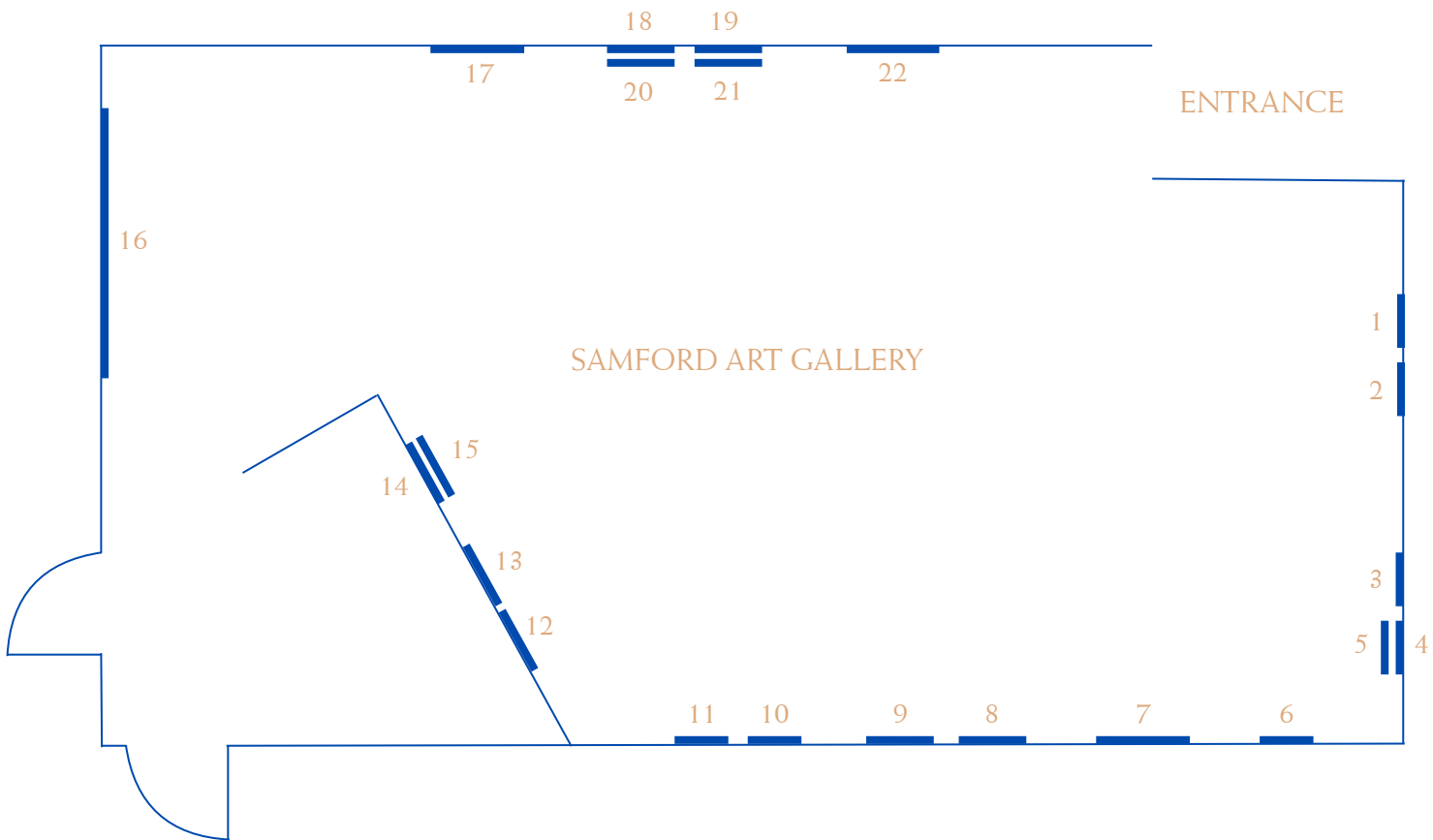
Our gallery installation presents a unique curation drawn from Dodds’s book *Now We See: Glimpses of New Jerusalem*.

Alongside the photographs, we have selected and sequenced passages of poetic text from the book to guide viewers on a journey through the space.

In keeping with Dodds’s vision for the project, the exhibition also extends beyond the gallery walls. Viewers are invited to embark on a pilgrimage of their own across Samford’s campus, where eight photographs—representing the eight key locations visited on the journey—are installed in public sites.

A diagram is provided with information on where each photograph may be found, transforming the campus itself into a living map of pilgrimage.

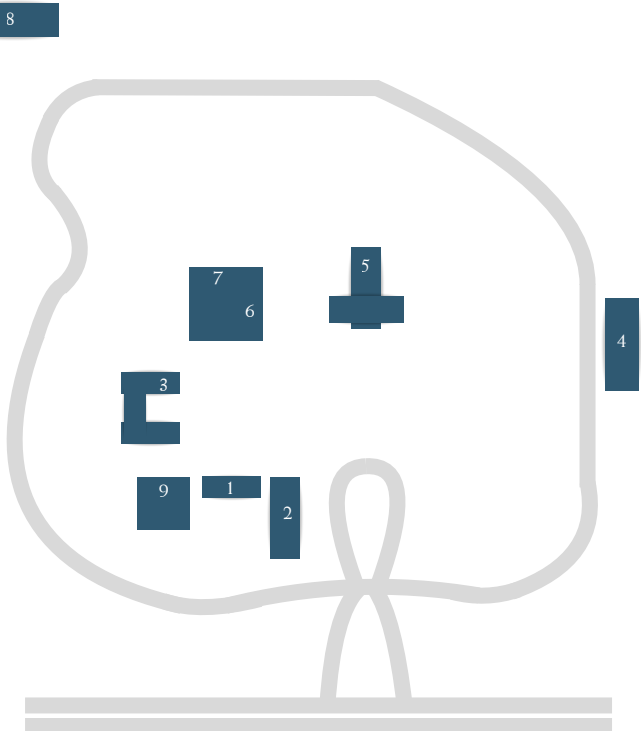
Thus, this exhibition is not only a photographic documentary of sacred buildings, but also a meditation on pilgrimage itself: a contemporary journey through image, text, and place, offering viewers a scaffold for sincere reflection and renewed imagination, revealing the closeness of the Heavenly City to our world.



- 1: Untitled, 2022 (Jerusalem)
- 2: Untitled, 2022 (Aachen)
- 3: Untitled, 2022 (Rome)
- 4: Untitled, 2022 (Jerusalem)
- 5: Untitled, 2022 (Rome)
- 6: Untitled, 2022 (Pisa)
- 7: Untitled, 2022 (Pisa)
- 8: Untitled, 2022 (Florence)

- 9: Untitled, 2022 (Jerusalem)
- 10: Untitled, 2022 (Ravenna)
- 11: Untitled, 2022 (Ravenna)
- 12: Untitled, 2022 (Padua)
- 13: Untitled, 2022 (Padua)
- 14: Untitled, 2022 (Venice)
- 15: Untitled, 2022 (The Alps)
- 16: Untitled, 2022 (Jerusalem)

- 17: Untitled, 2022 (Aachen)
- 18: Untitled, 2022 (Florence)
- 19: Untitled, 2022 (Venice)
- 20: Untitled, 2022 (Jerusalem)
- 21: Untitled, 2022 (London)
- 22: Untitled, 2022 (Florence)



- 1: **Buchanan Hall**  
Untitled, 2022 (Jerusalem)
- 2: **Samford Hall**  
Untitled, 2022 (Rome)
- 3: **Divinity Hall**  
Untitled, 2022 (Pisa)
- 4: **Propst Hall**  
Untitled, 2022 (Florence)
- 5: **University Library**  
Untitled, 2022 (Ravenna)
- 6: **University Center**  
Untitled, 2022 (Aachen)
- 7: **University Center**  
Untitled, 2022 (Venice)
- 8: **Art Lofts**  
Untitled, 2022 (London)
- 9: **Swearingen Hall**  
SAMFORD ART GALLERY

