

Preservation

A Villa in Italy

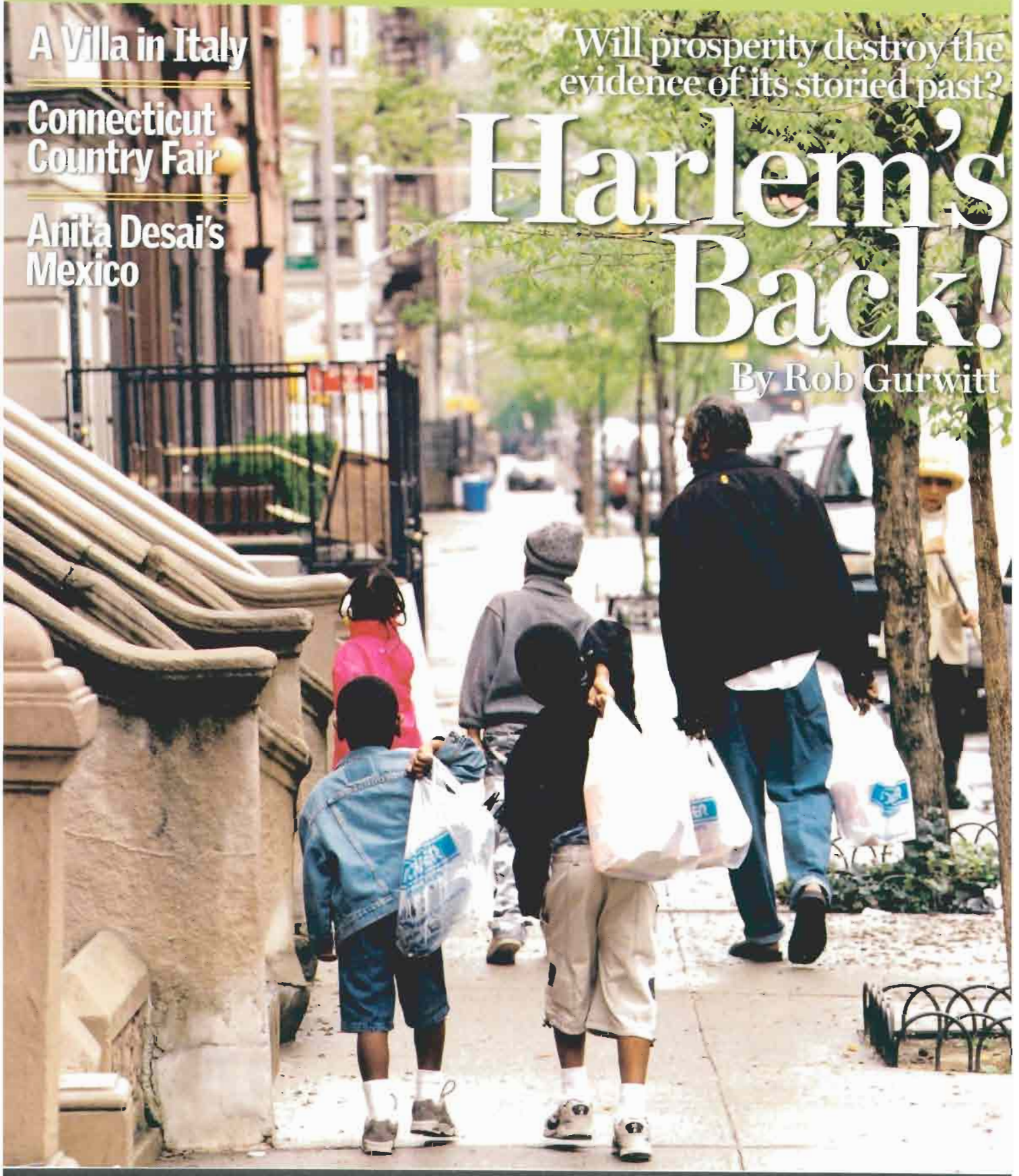
Connecticut
Country Fair

Anita Desai's
Mexico

Will prosperity destroy the
evidence of its storied past?

Harlem's Back!

By Rob Gurwitt



WHO'S NEWS

Creative Process

WHEN MARK BARONE WITNESSED a drug deal a couple of years ago near his house in the Lower Town district of Paducah, Ky., he decided to try to reclaim the neighborhood. He had an idea: Artists need inexpensive space,

and Lower Town has plenty of affordable if dilapidated old houses. After enlisting the support of the city and a local bank, Barone, who himself creates Bible-inspired paintings and etchings, launched the Paducah Artist Relocation Program in August 2000. He took out ads in national art magazines and created a Web site (www.paducaharts.com) to lure creative people to Paducah with real-estate bargains (rambling Victorians can sell for as little as \$25,000) and up to 100 percent financing. So far, eight artists have made the move, coming from as far away as New Hampshire. They may find a spillover market for their work in the 70,000 people who annually visit Paducah's quilt museum. Barone, who's now on the city payroll as the program's coordinator, hopes to assemble a colony of 20 to 25 artists in Paducah. "People are starting to say, 'This is a nice place to live,'" Barone says. "We're hoping to turn the whole area around." |

AMANDA HURLEY



BARONE

Mobile Home