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Fast, Easy, and in Cash: Artisan Hardship and Hope in the Global Economy

By Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld, Jason Antrosio

The University of Chicago Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Fast, Easy, and in Cash: Artisan Hardship and Hope in the Global Economy, Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld, Jason Antrosio, Artisan has recently become a buzzword in the developed world, used for items like cheese, wine, and baskets, as corporations succeed at branding their cheap, mass-produced products with the popular appeal of small-batch, handmade goods. The unforgiving realities of the artisan economy, however, never left the global south, and anthropologists have worried over the fate of these craftspeople as global capitalism has again remade their cultural and economic territory. Yet artisans are proving to be surprisingly vital players in contemporary capitalism, as they interlock innovation and tradition to create effective new forms of entrepreneurship. Based on seven years of extensive research in Colombia and Ecuador, veteran ethnographers Jason Antrosio and Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld's *Fast, Easy, and In Cash* explores how small-scale production and global capitalism are not directly opposed, but are rather essential partners in economic development. Antrosio and Colloredo-Mansfeld demonstrate how artisan trades arrive and flourish in modern Latin American communities. In uncertain economic environments, small manufacturers have adapted to excel at home-based production, product design, technological efficiency, and high-risk investments. Illuminating...



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