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splendid the global history of capitalism in all its creative and destructive glory new york times book review with its deep roots and global scope the capitalist system seems universal and timeless the framework for our lives it is a source of constant change sometimes measured and predictable sometimes drastic out of control yet what is now ubiquitous was not always so capitalism was an unlikely development

when it emerged from isolated changes in farming trade and manufacturing in early modern england astute observers began to notice these changes and register their effects those in power began to harness these new practices to the state enhancing both a system generating wealth power and new ideas arose to reshape societies in a constant surge of change approaching capitalism as a culture as a historical development that was by no means natural or inevitable joyce appleby gives us a fascinating introduction to this most potent creation of mankind from its origins to its present global reach

perhaps no issue casts a harsher light on social inequities than the growing number of people who go hungry everyday according to the food and agriculture organization of the united nations fao more people go hungry in the world today than at any time since 1970 an estimated 1 02 billion people were undernourished worldwide in 2009 642 million of whom lived in asia and the pacific the fao reports access to food or food security has become an issue that no one can ignore the lives of millions and the stability of governments depend on shrewd management of food supplies as the riots and hoarding during the food crisis in 2008 have shown the mere mention of a shortage is enough to destabilize markets and even governments as usual the poorest have been hit the hardest they have faced rising food prices while the global economic crisis has battered their incomes declining crop yields land degradation urbanization and the effects of climate change are putting additional pressure on efforts to produce more food market speculation makes the situation even more precarious this edition of development asia tackles this critical issue from varied perspectives from the points of view of science civil society and business as its cover story a growing hunger puts it there is no quick one size fits all solution especially for a region as geographically diverse as asia and the pacific building consensus is a huge ongoing challenge for leaders decision makers and stakeholders in the region as they wrestle with conflicting priorities in the hunger monger renowned financier jim rogers an outspoken advocate of agricultural investments acknowledges that food security is a highly emotional and political issue he gives a candid interview on the perceived tension between business interests and social needs and domestic and international concerns

american modernist epic argues that during the 1920s and 30s a cadre of minority novelists revitalized the classic epic form in an effort to recast the united states according to modern diverse and pluralistic grounds rather than adhere to the reification of static culture as did ancient verse epic in their prose epics gertrude stein and john dos passos utilized recursion bricolage and polyphony to represent

the multifarious immediacy and movement of the modern world meanwhile h t tsiang and richard wright created absurd and insipid anti heroes for their epics contesting the hegemony of anglo and capitalist dominance in the united states in all i posit these modern ist epic novels undermined and revised the foundational ideology of the united states contesting notions of individualism progress and racial hegemony while modernizing the epic form in an effort to refound the nation the marriage of this classical form to modernist principles produced transcendent literature and offered a strenuous challenge to the interwar status quo yet ultimately proved a failure longstanding american ideology was simply too fixed and widespread to be entirely dislodged

this new book analyses the strategies usages and wider implications of crowdsourcing and crowdfunding platforms in the culture and communication industries that are reshaping economic organizational and social logics platforms are the object of considerable hype with a growing global presence relying on individual contributions coordinated by social media to finance cultural production and carry out promotional tasks is a significant shift especially when supported by morphing public policies supposedly enhancing cultural diversity and accessibility the aim of this book is to propose a critical analysis of these phenomena by questioning what follows from decisions to outsource modes of creation and funding to consumers drawing on research carried out within the collab programme backed by the french national research agency the book considers how platforms are used to organize cultural labour and or to control usages following a logic of suggestion rather than overt injunction four key areas are considered the history of crowdfunding as a system whose interests crowdfunding may serve the implications for digital labour and lastly crowdfunding s interface with globalization and contemporary capitalism the book concludes with an assessment of claims that crowdfunding can democratize culture

a panoramic global history of the nineteenth century a monumental history of the nineteenth century the transformation of the world offers a panoramic and multifaceted portrait of a world in transition jürgen osterhammel an eminent scholar who has been called the braudel of the nineteenth century moves beyond conventional eurocentric and chronological accounts of the era presenting instead a truly global history of breathtaking scope and towering erudition he examines the powerful and complex forces that drove global change during the long nineteenth century taking readers from new york to new delhi from the latin american revolutions to the taiping rebellion from the perils and promise of europe s

transatlantic labor markets to the hardships endured by nomadic tribal peoples across the planet osterhammel describes a world increasingly networked by the telegraph the steamship and the railways he explores the changing relationship between human beings and nature looks at the importance of cities explains the role slavery and its abolition played in the emergence of new nations challenges the widely held belief that the nineteenth century witnessed the triumph of the nation state and much more this is the highly anticipated english edition of the spectacularly successful and critically acclaimed german book which is also being translated into chinese polish russian and french indispensable for any historian the transformation of the world sheds important new light on this momentous epoch showing how the nineteenth century paved the way for the global catastrophes of the twentieth century yet how it also gave rise to pacifism liberalism the trade union and a host of other crucial developments

considering the context of the present ecological and social crisis this book takes an interdisciplinary approach to explore the relationship between globalism and localization globalism may be viewed as a positive emergent property of globalization the latter depicts a worldwide economic and political system and arguably a worldview that has directly increased planetary levels of injustice poverty militarism violence and ecological destruction in contrast globalism represents interconnected systems of exchange and resourcefulness through increased communications across innumerable global diversities in an economic cultural and political framework localization centers on small scale communities placed within the immediate bioregion providing intimacy between the means of production and consumption as well as long term security and resilience there is an increasing movement towards localization in order to counteract the destruction wreaked by globalization yet our world is deeply and integrally immersed within a globalized reality within this collection contributors expound upon the connection between local and global phenomenon within their respective fields including social ecology climate justice ecopsychology big history peace ecology social justice community resilience indigenous rights permaculture food justice liberatory politics and both transformative and transpersonal studies

although freedom is america s core value few americans have a clear idea of what it means or worse enjoy much freedom in any of its conventional meanings drawing from republican tradition the book critiques the contemporary american value of freedom as it appears in politics the economy and culture

this book investigates notions of the individual society the state economic relations and historical change that exist in the political left by drawing on contemporary philosophical political and social thought using a discourse perspective this work brings together the many fractious strains in the left including social democracy anarchism communism and market socialism and discusses them in terms of their relationships with each other not only does the study disentangle the left from liberal capitalism and progressive movements such as those against racism and inequality it sees the current left as intertwined with its history and its visions of the future

will america s entrepreneurial spirit continue to define its destiny what can the rest of the world learn from america s experience in launchpad republic america s entrepreneurial edge and why it matters to all of us howard wolk and john landry provide an insightful and thought provoking history of entrepreneurship in the united states with a focus on the political legal and cultural forces that have sustained creative destruction and propelled the country forward for more than 200 years in telling this story the book highlights the critical features that have set america apart from other countries and identifies the key attributes necessary for it to maintain leadership for years to come entrepreneurship is a rebellious act and america s democratic system is unique in enabling new companies to challenge established ones as a result the country enjoys not just more robust start up activity but also a dynamism that forces big companies to improve or face the consequences it protects both property rights and the right to compete in ways not enjoyed elsewhere encouraging investment and innovation aside from assessing how american entrepreneurial capitalism unfolded the authors address current challenges such as the rise of the big tech concerns about inequality inclusivity and sustainability and the evolution toward stakeholder capitalism they compare the american approach to both continental europe s consensus oriented framework and china s authoritarian model launchpad republic offers readers insights into how america s political legal and cultural history helped make the country the most dynamic economy in the world since inception a framework for understanding how the country s balanced and limited government decentralized financial and corporate system and responsiveness to consumers all served to enable innovation and improved standard of living while avoiding many of the pitfalls of cronyism and protectionism fascinating comparisons between the united states and other countries both historical and contemporary that provide important context to many of today s critical issues a book that covers important topics in an easy to read style launchpad republic belongs in the library of every policy wonk capitalist

entrepreneur founder business leader amateur historian and technologist with an interest in how america s relentless entrepreneurial spirit has influenced and will influence its destiny

essays and philosophical observations by the nevada notary newspaper editor and civil war veteran

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