

Creating Worlds Otherwise

Art, Collective Action, and (Post)Extractivism

Latin American extractivism has become the ground on which activists and scholars frame the dynamics of ecological devastation, accumulation of wealth, and erosion of rights. These maladies are the detritus of longstanding extraction-oriented economies, and more recently from the expansion of the extractive frontier and the implementation of new technologies in the extraction of fossil fuels, mining, and agriculture. But the fields of sociology, political ecology, anthropology, and geography have largely ignored the role of art and cultural practices in studies of extractivism and postextractivism. The field of art theory on the other hand, has offered a number of texts that put forward insightful analyses of artwork addressing extraction, environmental devastation, and the climate crisis. However, an art theory perspective that does not engage firsthand with collective action remains limited, and fails to provide an account of the role, processes and politics of art in anti- and post-extractivist movements. *Creating Worlds Otherwise* offers the narratives that subaltern groups generate around extractivism, and how they develop, communicate, and mobilize these narratives through art and cultural practices. The book reports on a two-year research project into creative resistance to extractivism in Argentina, and builds on long-term engagement working on environmental justice projects and campaigns in Argentina and the UK. *Creating Worlds Otherwise* is structured according to the main themes of anti and post-extractivist movements: territoriality; ecofeminism and the ethics of care; human rights and the rights of nature; urban extractivism; sovereignty, autonomy and self-determination; and postextractivism and alternatives to development. It is an innovative contribution to the fields of Latin American studies, political ecology, cultural studies, and art theory, and addresses pressing questions regarding what post-extractivist worlds might look like as well as how such visions are put into practice.

Extractivism has increasingly become the ground on which activists and scholars in Latin America frame the dynamics of ecological devastation, accumulation of wealth, and erosion of rights. These maladies are the direct consequences of longstanding extraction-oriented economies, and more recently from the expansion of the extractive frontier and the implementation of new technologies in the extraction of fossil fuels, mining, and agriculture. But the fields of sociology, political ecology, anthropology, and geography have largely ignored the role of art and cultural practices in studies of extractivism and postextractivism. The field of art theory, on the other hand, has offered a number of texts that put forward insightful analyses of artwork addressing extraction, environmental devastation, and the climate crisis. However, an art theory perspective that does not engage firsthand and in depth with collective action remains limited and fails to provide an account of the role, processes, and politics of art in anti- and postextractivist movements. *Creating Worlds Otherwise* examines the narratives that subaltern groups generate around extractivism, and how they develop, communicate, and mobilize these narratives through art and cultural practices. It reports on a two-year research project into creative resistance to extractivism in Argentina and builds on long-term engagement working on environmental justice projects and campaigns in Argentina and the UK. It is an innovative contribution to the fields of Latin American studies, political ecology, cultural studies, and art theory, and addresses pressing questions regarding what post-extractivist worlds might look like as well as how such visions are put into practice.



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