

## [Segnalazioni]

Roy Ananya, Ong Aihwa (eds), *Worlding Cities: Asian Experiments and the Art of Being Global*, Oxford (U.K.): Wiley-Blackwell, 2012, ISBN: 9781405192767, DOI: 10.1002/9781444346800

Greater Asia is a region of vibrant innovations in urban design, built forms, governance, aesthetics, and politics, and this book - comparing cities across Asia: from Singapore to Shanghai, from Dubai to Delhi - is one of the first serious examinations of urbanism in Asian countries to highlight the connections between different Asian models, practices of urbanization, experiments more or less intense and more or less successful with different ways of being global.

Serge Bosc, *Tous en classes moyennes?*, Paris: La documentation Française, 2013, pp. 144, ISBN: 9782110092571

Serge Bosc is a sociologist and a specialist in social stratification and middle classes. In this small but thoughtful volume, he faces the question of the middle classes starting from their definition and delimitation, and then focusing on their plural character, representing them as a «mosaic» of social profiles and economic situations, with persistent differences on the plane of cultural practices. He therefore offers a general reflection on the conditions of French middle classes in the context of the economic crisis.

Julien Damon, *Les classes moyennes*, Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 2013, pp. 128, ISBN: 9782130618508

In this book, the author makes a vivid portrait of the middle classes from a comparative perspective. After having shown how different they can be in size, according to their definition, he discusses three dominant theses on French middle classes – their disadvantage deriving from the socio-fiscal system, their déclassement, and their relegation to peri-urban areas – and concludes that the crisis has not significantly affected their conditions, whereas American middle classes are experiencing a démoynennization. On the other hand, emerging middle classes in developing countries are growing in importance.

Karina Pallagst, Thorsten Wiechmann, Cristina M. Fernandez, *Shrinking Cities: International Perspectives and Policy Implications*, New York: Routledge, 2013, pp.184, ISBN: 9780415804851

The “shrinking city phenomenon” is a complex process that affects cities that have experienced decline in their economic and social bases. This book places shrinking cities in a global perspective, setting the context for in-depth case studies of cities within Mexico, Brazil, Indonesia, Germany, France, Great Britain, South Korea, Australia, and the USA.

Mikael Rostila, *Social Capital and Health Inequality in European Welfare States*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013, pp. 234, ISBN: 9780230293434, DOI: 10.1057/9781137305664

Drawing on Swedish national survey data and registers as well as cross-national data from the European Social Survey (ESS), the book develops a new (prismatic) theoretical definition of social capital and sets out unique findings on whether social capital itself influences (in positive as well as in negative way) health and health inequalities in European welfare states.

Zanini Adelino, *Principi e forme delle scienze sociali. Cinque studi su Schumpeter*, Bologna: Il Mulino, 2013, pp. 205, ISBN: 8815244964, ISBN-13: 9788815244963

This volume is devoted to properly define the commitment of Schumpeter towards the debate on Sozialwissenschaften. In addition to the best-known Schumpeter texts, the Author analyzes a large number of minor writings, thanks to which he can advance – according to the Austrian economist thinking – a definition of the most relevant interpretative tools of the social sciences.