

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910460624803321
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Titolo	Building China : informal work and the new precariat // Sarah Swider ; cover design, Richanna Patrick
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ithaca, New York ; ; London, [England] : , : ILR Press, an imprint of Cornell University Press, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	1-5017-0171-1 1-5017-0172-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (212 p.)
Disciplina	331
Soggetti	Construction industry - China Construction workers - China Informal sector (Economics) - China Migrant labor - China Labor movement - China Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Acknowledgments -- 1. Building China and the Making of a New Working Class -- 2. The Hukou System, Migration, and the Construction Industry -- 3. Mediated Employment -- 4. Embedded Employment -- 5. Individual Employment -- 6. Protest and Organizing among Informal Workers under Restrictive Regimes -- 7. Informal Precarious Workers, Protests, and Precarious Authoritarianism -- Appendix A. Methods, Sampling, and Access -- Appendix B. List of Construction Sites -- Appendix C. List of Interviews -- Notes -- References -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Roughly 260 million workers in China have participated in a mass migration of peasants moving into the cities, and construction workers account for almost half of them. In Building China, Sarah Swider draws on her research in Beijing, Guangzhou, and Shanghai between 2004 and 2012, including living in an enclave, working on construction jobsites, and interviews with eighty-three migrants, managers, and

labor contractors. This ethnography focuses on the lives, work, family, and social relations of construction workers. It adds to our understanding of China's new working class, the deepening rural-urban divide, and the growing number of undocumented migrants working outside the protection of labor laws and regulation. Swider shows how these migrants-members of the global "precariat," an emergent social force based on vulnerability, insecurity, and uncertainty-are changing China's class structure and what this means for the prospects for an independent labor movement. The workers who build and serve Chinese cities, along with those who produce goods for the world to consume, are mostly migrant workers. They, or their parents, grew up in the countryside; they are farmers who left the fields and migrated to the cities to find work. Informal workers-who represent a large segment of the emerging workforce-do not fit the traditional model of industrial wage workers. Although they have not been incorporated into the new legal framework that helps define and legitimize China's decentralized legal authoritarian regime, they have emerged as a central component of China's economic success and an important source of labor resistance.
