Continental Crucible
Big Business, Workers and Unions in the Transformation of North America, Second Edition

Richard Roman and Edur Velasco Arregui
Foreword by Steve Early
Preface by Mel Watkins

The crucible of North American neoliberal transformation is heating up, but its outcome is far from clear. Continental Crucible examines the clash between the corporate offensive and the forces of resistance from both a pan-continental and a class struggle perspective. This book also illustrates the ways in which the capitalist classes in Canada, Mexico, and the United States used free trade agreements to consolidate their agendas and organize themselves continentally.

The failure of traditional labor responses to stop the continental offensive being waged by big business has led workers and unions to explore new strategies of struggle and organization, pointing to the beginnings of a continental labor movement across North America. The battle for the future of North America has begun.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

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Steve Early has been an organizer, strike strategist, labor educator, lawyer, and a national staff member of the Communications Workers of America. Early is the author of Civil Wars in U.S. Labor and Embedded with Organized Labor; his writing on the labor movement has appeared in many publications, like The Nation, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Progressive.

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ACCOLADES

“All of those interested in understanding the nature of the problems we face in taking on the capitalist class and building a new continental labor movement will find this book essential.”
—Dan La Botz, New Politics

“The product of decades of close collaboration between two participant/observers of the Mexican labor movement, Continental Crucible is a significant contribution to the literature on NAFTA and labor that merits the study and consideration of labor educators.”
—Labor Studies Journal