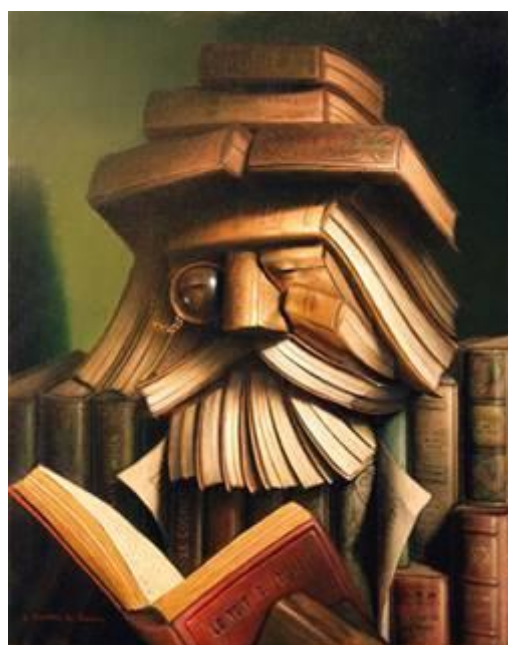


REVIEWS: Wealth, Business Books For 2018

Tom Burroughes, Group Editor , 21 December 2018



A collection of reviews of business and economics books that were sent to the author this year.

The Wealth Elite, by Rainer Zitelmann. LID Publishing. 421 pages.

This is an academic study into what drives men and women to become entrepreneurs, and explores their emotions and thoughts. It brings a rigorous sociological approach to a section of the world's population. It is a contrast to the majority of academic studies which have tended to focus more – perhaps understandably – on the less well off. (Dr Zitelmann is an investor and publicist with a background in media and academia: for a time he worked as an historian at the Freie Universität Berlin. This is not a light read, but it will prove a valuable resource for business students in future.)

Dr Zitelmann has also published *The Power of Capitalism: A Journey Through Recent History Across Five Continents*. LID Publishing. 233 Pages. This book examines a range of examples (some of them harrowing, such as China during the 1950s and 60s), to show the case for free markets as opposed to state central planning. While Dr Zitelmann's book on the super-rich was a more academic item that avoided overtly philosophical or political views, this second book is much more argumentative. Rather than starting with theory, it draws on a mass of examples. At a time when free trade and open markets are under attack from Left and Right, it is instructive that an academic from Germany should produce such a book. Again, the facts and figures in here, and the bibliography, reflect the scale of research Dr Zitelmann incorporates into his books.