

FRANCISCO QUIROZ CHUECA: *Artisanos y manufactureros en Lima colonial*. Lima: Banco Central de Reserva del Perú e Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, 2008.

This is a solid study of artisans and manufacturers in colonial Lima. The book is organized around what the author sees as pivotal moments in Lima's economic history: the sixteenth-century creation of an artisan group; the seventeenth-century apogee of local manufacturing; and the eighteenth-century economic crisis that produced a return to small scale workshops. Drawing widely on published studies and archival research as well as his own previous work on artisans, *gremios*, and indigenous urban labor, Quiroz demonstrates that it was not only artisans, laboring in small *talleres* and using the traditional three-tier system of master, journeyman, and apprentice, who produced goods in Lima. From the mid-sixteenth century on, Lima also contained an important industrial sector of large-scale producers whose workers produced cloth, soap, liquors and wine.

Unlike artisans, small independent producers who employed a small work force and limited technology, and often sold directly to their clients, manufacturers concentrated a larger group of workers in a central workforce, used positive and negative economic incentives, and tended to divide workers into groups concentrating on specialized tasks. Both categories of producers lacked the power of rural landowners to tap *mita* laborers. As a result urban-based producers turned to free Indians, *castas* and, to a lesser degree, black slaves as a workforce. Because of the relatively high cost of slaves, artisans often purchased young men, trained them in a craft and then sold them as skilled craftsmen. While factory owners employed some slaves owned by third-parties, they tended to use more free indigenous people and *castas*.

Because neither type of production was subject to a municipal or state tax that might have generated serial records, Quiroz is forced to work somewhat like an artisan himself, combing archives for indirect references to both groups. Using *limeño* notarial archives, cabildo records, Consulado proceedings, criminal and civil cases, *cédulas*, and church records, as well as material from Seville, Madrid, and Simancas, he succeeds in giving the reader a rich picture of production, expenses, prices, distribution networks, the labor force, and working conditions. While Quiroz admits that he is unable to calculate profits, we do get an impression of how both manufacturers and artisans spent their money, so-called "non-productive" consumption. Interestingly the major items listed were, in life, sumptuous clothing and jewelry, drink and gambling, and, in death, generous religious donations to *cofradías*, convents, and monasteries, hospitals, and priests for numerous masses.

Quiroz also shows the extent to which the Bourbon Reforms, intent on returning the Spanish colonies in America to the role of producers of raw materials and consumers of so-called “Spanish goods”, wreaked havoc on the economy of Lima. In addition to demonetizing the economy, local production was in many cases destroyed, or at least severely disrupted. Small artisanal producers found themselves unable to raise necessary capital as did those manufacturers competing with imported goods. As a result, unemployment and poverty grew. Only large producers involved in supplying the local market with foodstuffs and other needed consumer products (mill owners, bakeries, candle makers) were able to survive. Increasingly these producers also sought political favors to remain in business. Moreover, all those engaged in manufacturing were further pressured by the growing demands for contributions (*donativos*) to the royal fisc.

Quiroz’s book serves to correct the prevailing impression that Spanish America never moved beyond artisanal production, often seen as the root of the region’s economic underdevelopment. He shows that, at least in Lima, both artisan production and proto-industrial manufacturing were established by the 1560s. Both grew during the next 200 years as a growing population fed the local demand for goods, but both were severely damaged by late eighteenth-century economic policies. Interestingly, Quiroz fails to also consider the political dimension of these policies which, in the case of Peru, reduced its Viceroyalty in size, mineral production and influence.

**Susan M. Socolow**

*Emory University*