THE ART OF THE GUT
Manhood, Power, and Ethics in Japanese Politics
ROBIN M. LE BLANC

“The Art of the Gut reads as easily as a fast-paced novel. Searching beyond the formal structures, regulations, and demographic counts associated with elections to consider the potential for one man to make a difference takes LeBlanc into an investigation of codes of masculinity in contemporary Japan as she studies how these men both employ and defy these codes in their political lives.”
—Jan Bardsley, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

This beautifully written ethnography follows the lives of two very different Japanese men entering political life in two very different communities. One is the rural leader of a citizens’ referendum movement, while the other hopes to succeed his father in a Tokyo ward assembly. Fast-paced and engrossing, The Art of the Gut puts the reader behind the scenes to hear speeches, attend campaign functions, and eavesdrop on late-night strategy sessions and one-on-one conversations. In her groundbreaking analysis, Robin M. Le Blanc explores the two men’s differing notions of what is expected of a “good” man and demonstrates how the fundamental desire to be good men constrains their political choices even as it encourages both to become ethical agents. The result is a vibrant and up-to-date picture of politics in Japan today.

ROBIN M. LE BLANC is Professor of Politics at Washington and Lee University and is the author of Bicycle Citizens: The Political World of the Japanese Housewife (UC Press).

FORTHCOMING IN NOVEMBER 2009
250 pages, 6 x 9"
$60.00 cloth  978-0-520-25916-4
$48.00 paper  978-0-520-25917-1

To read more go to: go.ucpress.edu/LeBlanc

Use Source Code 09M8047 For A 20% Discount (U.S. only, ends 12/31/09)

Return order form to: California-Princeton Fulfillment Services,
1444 Lower Ferry Road, Ewing, NJ 08618
To order online: www.ucpress.edu
Enter source code 09M8047 at checkout.
Toll-free phone (800) 777-4726 fax (800) 999-1958