CONTENTS

List of Illustrations and Tables	ix
Preface	xi
PART ONE: An Overlooked Reality	
CHAPTER ONE The Problem	3
CHAPTER TWO	
Singularities	10
What Are Singularities?	10
A Preliminary Journey	13
The Market of Psychoanalysis	15
Two Models of Singularity	16
CHAPTER THREE	
Do We Need Another Market Theory?	21
What Mainstream Economics Could Only Ignore	21
What the "New Economics" Chose to Ignore	23
PART TWO: Tools for Analysis	
CHAPTER FOUR	
Judgment	35
Can Economic Analysis Ignore Information?	35
Decision and Judgment	36
What Is Judgment?	39
CHAPTER FIVE	
Judgment Devices	44
Devices Are Representatives	46
Devices Are Cognitive Supports	49
Devices Are Active Forces	51
CHAPTER SIX	
Trust Devices	55
Formal Analysis	57
Substantive Analysis	58

CONTENTS

CHAPTER SEVEN	
Homo singularis	67
Value and Instrumentality	68
Shopping	73
The Red Michelin Guide: A Paper Engine	77
How Many Ninth Symphonies Did Beethoven Compose?	80
CHAPTER EIGHT	
The Metamorphosis of Singularities	87
The Weight of Words	88
Can Sameness Engender Incommensurability?	89
CHAPTER NINE	
The Regimes of Economic Coordination	96
A Classification of the Economic Coordination Regimes	97
Consumer Commitments and Coordination Regimes	103
INTERLUDE	106
PART THREE: Economic Coordination Regimes	
Impersonal Devices Regimes	131
CHAPTER TEN	
The Authenticity Regime	133
The Market of Fine Wines	135
The Hachette and the Parker Guides to Wine	138
The Intelligentsia, Connoisseurs, and the Eayman	141
Vulnerability of the French Fine-Wines Market?	144
CHAPTER ELEVEN	
The Mega Regime	148
Mega films	148
The Luxury Megafirm	157
The Megabrand	163
CHAPTER TWELVE	
The Expert-Opinion Regime	167
Literary Prizes	167
Trendsetters and Gatekeepers	170
Public Quality-Rating Devices	171
CHAPTER THIRTEEN	174
The Common-Opinion Regime	174
Songs	175
Adjustment by the Charts	111

CONTENTS	vii
Personal Devices Regimes	181
CHAPTER FOURTEEN The Network-Market The Personal Network The Trade Network The Practitioner Network	183 183 185 186
CHAPTER FIFTEEN The Reticular Coordination Regime Coordination by Shared Convictions Coordination by Belief in Miracle Workers	188 188 191
CHAPTER SIXTEEN The Professional Coordination Regime	195
Professional Regime Variants Legal-Services Coordination Regime Variants	196 203
CHAPTER SEVENTEEN Prices	209
Concordance Disproportion	211 219
PART FOUR: Finale	
CHAPTER EIGHTEEN The Historicity of Singularities	229
The Rule of Product Renewal Desingularization of Personalized Services Desingularization of Pop Music	232 236 242
CHAPTER NINETEEN Conclusion: Economics of Singularities and Individualism	255
On Individualism Singularities and Individualism	256 261
Index	265