

# TEXTILE MUSEUM ASSOCIATES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Present



## **NOMAD FESTIVALS of the EASTERN GRASSLANDS OF TIBET: Their Textiles, Costumes & Horse Trappings**

with

**Cheri Hunter**

Traveler, Photographer, Writer, Textile Collector,  
and Program Chairman, TMA/SC

**K**ham and Amdo are remote, isolated and culturally Tibetan provinces in China. Their landscapes consist of snowy peaks and rolling grasslands on the eastern Tibetan Plateau, where nomadic peoples have maintained grazing cultures with sheep and yaks for centuries. Just as at American county fairs and rodeos, Tibetan nomads love to come together for spectacular annual festivals, featuring dance, costume contests, and wild competitions of horsemanship. Tibetan Buddhist culture, which is often mixed with the local animistic shaman practices, also presents opportunities for seasonal celebrations.

Cheri Hunter, longtime photographer and traveler, traversed the grasslands in 2006, photographing the colorful festivals and rituals, several of which have since disappeared. This program will emphasize both the costumes, jewelry and pile trappings in use throughout the Eastern Grasslands, as well as in monastery and shaman rituals, and horse competitions, where all of the participants, including the horses, are dressed in their finest.

A native and resident of Southern California, and graduate of UCLA in Art and Cinema, Cheri Hunter is a former film editor. Since retiring, her life has focused on world travel, and on her special interests in photography, art, and writing. She collects hand-made ethnographic textiles and Oriental carpets of the world, and loves learning about their cultural and historical contexts, concentrating mostly on Asia. She has written and illustrated multiple articles, mostly photo spreads, for *HALI Magazine*, including on this visit to Tibet.

Cheri is a founding member of TMA/SC. For the past thirty years, she has been the off-and-on again volunteer President of Textile Museum Associates of Southern California, and since 1992, its Program Chairman. During this time, she has created nearly 350 programs for TMA/SC, a local non-profit organization that presents monthly programs. While originally only In-Person programs were offered, with speakers flown in from around North America and the world, since 2020 the programs are now mostly presented virtually via Zoom.

**VIRTUAL via Zoom**

**Saturday, February 7, 2026**

**10 am PT / 1 pm ET / 6 pm GMT - London**

**ZOOM REGISTRATION: <https://tinyurl.com/TMATibetfnrcg>**



## TMA/SC FEBRUARY, 2026 NEWSLETTER

\*To find out about these programs (below) directly, sign up for these organizations' and institutions' email send-outs.

\* For your Time Zone, go to <https://dateful.com/time-zone-converter> and enter the event date and time, and your local city.

### UPCOMING TMA/SC PROGRAMS:

**Sunday, Jan. 18, '26, 11 am  
PT / In-Person program**

**“GLOBAL THREADS: INDIA’S TEXTILE REVOLUTION” TMA/SC  
Exhibition Tour, at the Bowers Museum, Santa Ana. **Prepaid Reservations  
Required by January 5.****

**Saturday, March 14, '26,  
10 am PT / 1 pm ET**

**“REWEAVING ANCIENT MEMORY: COMMUNITY FASHION in  
OAXACAN MEXICO” with Eric Mindling, Santa Fe, NM. **Webinar, via Zoom****

### RUG AND TEXTILE LECTURES, VIRTUAL / ZOOM PROGRAMS, SYMPOSIA and FAIRS



**TEXTILES OF CHINA AND CENTRAL ASIA** with Jacqueline Simcox.  
**Virtual via Zoom.** Saturday, January 24, 2026, 10 am PT / 1 pm ET / 6 pm GMT – London. Hajji Baba Club, NYC. Co-Author Jacqueline Simcox will speak about the recent Prestel publication: *Textiles of China and Central Asia*. The collection is privately held and was formed by collectors over many years and reflects their deep interest in Central Asian silk textiles and the trade in Chinese silks, including textiles and costumes, which were bestowed on Tibet from the Chinese court over many generations. It includes examples of the major textile techniques of *kesi* (tapestry), embroidery and a variety of brocades. Details and **Registration:** <https://www.hajjibaba.org/meeting/textiles-of-china-and-central-asia/>

**A CULTURAL EPIPHANY. RELIGIOUS DANCES OF BHUTAN AND THEIR COSTUMES** with Françoise Pommaret, PhD. **Virtual via Zoom.**

**Saturday, Jan. 24, 10 am PT / 1 pm ET / 6 pm GMT – London.** Textile Arts Council, de Young Museum. This culturally immersive lecture presents information on the dances, the dance costumes, and the performers. It tries to go beyond the swirling dancers and the dance's aesthetics, taking an in-depth look at the gorgeous costumes that transform a monk or a layman into a deer, a fantastic beast, a wrathful deity, or a celestial fairy. Dances are an incredible medium to teach religious concepts in an attractive and entertaining way, and the costumes play an important part in this endeavor. **Registration:** <https://tinyurl.com/TACDancesofBhutanReg>



**FROM DEIR EL-MEDINA TO D.C., THE COMPLEX LIFE OF AN EGYPTIAN TEXTILE FRAGMENT** Cotsen / Textile Traces Talk. **Virtual via Zoom \*and\* In Person, Thursday, February 12, 2026, 1-2 p.m. EST.** The Textile Museum/GWU, Washington, DC. This program discusses a micro exhibition at The TM, featuring a small painted textile fragment from the collection (T-2920), along with the story of how student research uncovered its hidden origins. Multiple experts were suspicious of the fragment's authenticity due to its lack of provenance and had declined to study it. Through her undergraduate research project at GW, Hannah Faberman has demonstrated that the fragment constitutes a missing portion of a Roman-period Egyptian funerary shroud excavated from Thebes. **Registration:** <https://museum.gwu.edu/cotsen-textile-traces-talk-deir-el-medina-dc-complex-life-egyptian-textile-fragment>



**TEXTILien IM WANDEL** The Forum for Textile and Carpet Art in Basel is offering a Symposium celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 21–22, 2026, at kHaus, Kasernenhof 8, 4058 Basel. The program will be in German, but slide labels can be added in English on request. **Program & Reservations Details:** <https://tinyurl.com/SwissRugSymposiumProg>

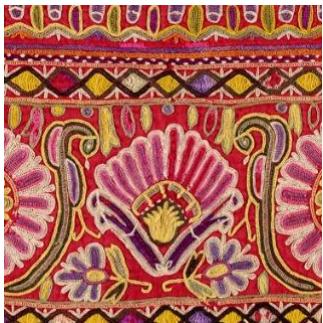
**ONLINE ARTICLES, BLOGS, REVIEWS, RECORDINGS**



**SACRED THREADS: Heritage, Ritual, and Meaning in Turkmen Textiles** with Dr. Snezhanna Atanova. **FOLLOW UP:** Several Viewers of this TMA/SC Zoom program in November had asked about Dr. Atanova's published articles. Here is a link to the list, of which some articles are in Russian, but others are in English: <https://hukz.academia.edu/SnejannaAtanova>

**THE TEXTILE MUSEUM JOURNAL SYMPOSIUM** **Virtual via Zoom,** Saturday, December 6, 2025, 7 – 9:30 am PT / 10 am - 12:30 pm EST / 3 – 5:30 pm GMT – London. The Textile Museum/GWU, Washington, DC. Four contributors to Volume 52 of The Textile Museum Journal focused on new research illuminating aspects of The Textile Museum Collection. As a special centennial program, several of these researchers gather online for a one-day symposium. See Registration page for list of programs. **Recording:** <https://vimeo.com/1147435514?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>.





**ARTISANS BY DESIGN** with Judy Frater. Book Talk. **In-Person \*and\* Virtual.** **Tuesday, December 9, 2025, 10 am PT / 1 pm EST / 6 pm GMT – London.** The Textile Museum / GWU, Washington, DC. Author and former Textile Museum curator Judy Frater discusses her 2024 book, *Artisans by Design: An Odyssey of Education for Textile Artisans in India*. Frater chronicles her journey in developing the first design school for artisans in India. Spanning 50 years, the story weaves together vignettes of individual artisans with the author's own experience. Through this dialogue, readers gain insights into craft, cultural heritage and the creativity of traditional artisans in the contemporary world. **Recording:** <https://vimeo.com/1146055930?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>

#### **THE BLACK ATLANTIC: EMBROIDERY, IMPERIALISM AND MOBILITY IN THE HORN OF AFRICA** Cotsen Textile Traces Talk. **Virtual \*and\* In Person.**

**Thursday, December 11, 2025, 10 am PT / 1 pm EST / 6 pm GMT – London.** The Textile Museum / GWU. While Ethiopia fought brutal wars against Italian invasion, the British and American roles in defeating Italy during World War II laid the foundation for eight decades of Western intervention in the region. Organized by GW students, “The Black Atlantic” micro exhibition uses an embroidered legging fragment from 1940s Ethiopia to explore the country’s relationship with the rest of the African continent and the Western world. **Recording coming soon:**

<https://museum.gwu.edu/cotsen-textile-traces-talk-black-atlantic-embroidery-imperialism-and-mobility-horn-africa>

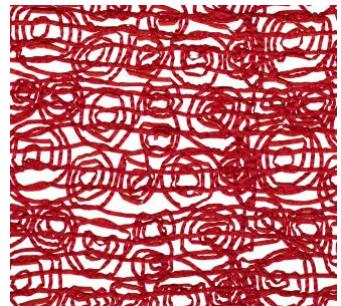


**SYRIAN REFUGEES STEWARDING TEXTILE HERITAGE: COTSEN TEXTILE TRACES TALK** with Nabila Hijazi. **Virtual and In Person, October 31, 2025, 10 am PT / 1pm EDT / 5 pm GMT – London.** Textile Museum/GWU. GW professor Nabila Hijazi will introduce a new micro exhibition, presented with the Cotsen Textile Traces Study Center, and the class project that inspired it, which she developed in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Dr. Hijazi will share how her students explored Syrian textiles — analyzing examples from the Cotsen Textile Traces Study Collection and engaging with Syrian refugee women resettled in Washington, D.C. **RECORDING:** <https://vimeo.com/channels/1644481>

**WEAVING ABSTRACTION: Rug and Textile Appreciation Morning** with Vanessa Moraga. **Virtual \*and\* In Person, Saturday, November 15, 2025, 8 am PT / 11 am EST / 6 pm GMT- London.** The Textile Museum at GWU, Washington, DC. As part of a series of 2025 programs revisiting groundbreaking exhibitions and publications from The Textile Museum’s 100-year history, guest curator Vanessa Drake Moraga looks back at “Weaving Abstraction: Kuba Textiles and the Woven Art of Central Africa.” The 2011 exhibition was notable not only as the first major presentation of African textiles at The Textile Museum since founder George Hewitt Myers acquired a rare Kuba skirt in 1933. It was also the first comprehensive museum exhibition and catalog in the United States to explore the breadth of the distinctive Kuba tradition. **RECORDING:** <https://vimeo.com/channels/1643456>



**GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE: TEXTILE FUTURES / COTSEN TEXTILE TRACES** **Virtual via Zoom.** **Thursday, Nov. 6 & Friday, Nov. 7, 2025, 7 am PT / 10 am ET / 3 pm GMT / London.** The Textile Museum/GWU, Washington, DC. The future of fashion and textiles calls for both reflection and innovation. As the industry faces the challenges of overproduction, waste and cultural erosion, new opportunities are emerging to rethink how we make and use clothing. Inspired by themes from the exhibition *Source Material: Lessons in Responsible Fashion*, this virtual roundtable brings together a global panel of scholars, designers and cultural practitioners to explore future-oriented approaches to textile production and consumption. **Recordings:** <https://museum.gwu.edu/cotsen-textile-traces-global-roundtable-textile-futures>





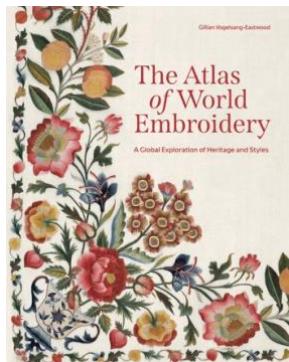
**THE SARI AS ART, AND POLITICAL STATEMENT Article and Exhibition.** Now through April 26, 2026. New York Historical Society. *The New York Sari* centers the sari as an essential part of the cultural fabric of New York City, using it as a metaphor for the ways in which the individuals who wear and create saris have straddled tradition, culture, and modernity in their work, art, and lives. The exhibition tells the stories of who wears saris, the relationship between saris and identities, and how they've evolved over time. **Review (NYTimes):** [https://www.nytimes.com/2025/10/14/style/the-sari-as-art-and-political-statement.html?unlocked\\_article\\_code=1.uE8.6jP\\_uuMMr6zB\\_Eim&smid=url-share](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/10/14/style/the-sari-as-art-and-political-statement.html?unlocked_article_code=1.uE8.6jP_uuMMr6zB_Eim&smid=url-share)  
**Exhibition:** <https://www.nyhistory.org/exhibitions/the-new-york-sari>

**GEORGE HEWITT MYERS: AMBASSADOR FOR TEXTILES** Panel Discussion. **Virtual via Zoom.** Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025, 8 am PT / 11 a.m. ET / 4 pm BST – London. The Textile Museum, GWU. In celebration of The Textile Museum's centennial year, researchers and historians reflect on the life, collecting philosophy and lasting impact of founder George Hewitt Myers (1875–1957). His lifelong commitment to textile studies and his creation. We honor George Hewitt Myers and reflect on the collecting vision that continues to inspire The Textile Museum's work as a global center for textile studies. **RECORDING (scroll down):** <https://vimeo.com/channels/1643456>



**NASREEN KI HAVELI: PAKISTANI TEXTILE MUSEUM FULFILLS A DREAM Article.** Aramco World Magazine online. On a semiresidential street in Karachi, behind the gates of an elegant family home, a revolution in cultural preservation is quietly taking shape. Pakistan, a land known for its diversity of textiles across regions, from the mirrorwork of Sindh to the muted weaves of Balochistan and the fetching *phulkari* embroidery of Punjab, now has a textile museum to call its own. "Folk textiles are spontaneous expressions of the artisan's environment. That's where their design sense comes from—the balance of color, the textures, the composition. It's embedded in their way of life." Read the entire article: <https://www.aramcoworld.com/articles/2025/s025/nasreen-ki-haveli-a-tapestry-of-heritage-and-hope>

**THE ATLAS OF WORLD EMBROIDERY** by Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood. **Book.** This new book, published by Princeton University Press, is described as "A richly illustrated history of embroidery and needlework, showcasing the glorious range of styles, motifs, and materials used around the world. Embroidery is one of the world's most widely shared forms of creative expression—and one of its most varied and diverse. It can be found in every region, yet its visual languages, themes, and techniques vary greatly: some are marked by unique styles and others show influences from neighboring cultures. The Atlas of World Embroidery examines many distinctive embroidery styles and traditions found across the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Australasia." <https://www.trc-leiden.nl/trc/index.php/nl/102-news/1753-the-atlas-of-world-embroidery>



**ONE WOMAN'S JOURNEY PRESERVING THE ART OF RALLI Article,** Forbes Online. In 1996, Dr. Patricia Ormsby Stoddard discovered a *ralli* quilt in Islamabad, Pakistan. Almost three decades later, she has made it her life's mission to help preserve this ancient craft. From its unique patterns, eye-catching color combinations and lovely add-ons (mirror work, beads and tassles), the textile enthusiast felt a strong connection to the craft of *ralli*. She felt both awe-struck and inspired to research an art form that largely remained undocumented. Read more details: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/sonyarehman/2025/06/15/love-at-first-stitchone-womans-journey-preserving-the-art-of-ralli/>

## VIRTUAL & ACTUAL EXHIBITIONS of RUGS AND TEXTILES



**WEAVING THE NEW WORLD: HISPANIC TEXTILES AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIER** **Exhibition.** Now - March 31, 2026 Lunder Research Center, Couse-Sharp Historic Site, Taos, NM  
Installed in both the modern Dean Porter Gallery space and the 1830s Luna Chapel, Weaving the New World demonstrates the unique, rich, and colorful textile traditions that developed in New Mexico, Mexico, and elsewhere in what is now the American Southwest. In addition to textiles from the Couse collection, most of the historic textiles on view will be from the unparalleled lifetime collections of Mark and Linda Winter, modern-day traders to the Diné people at their Historic Toadlena Trading Post on the Navajo Nation. DETAILS: <https://couse-sharp.org/exhibitions/detail/100027>

### **MADE BY MANY: 50 YEARS OF THE TEXTILE MUSEUM OF Canada**

**Exhibition.** Now - Sep 1, 2026. Textile Museum of Canada, Toronto. For over five decades, the Museum has developed a collection comprised of living objects, imbued with stories and knowledge of the diverse communities from which they originate. This collection has been the foundation of numerous exhibitions, each offering different perspectives on the cultures, histories, and artistic practices represented within it. Made by Many: 50 Years of the Textile Museum of Canada is a celebration of this legacy – a legacy shaped by countless artists, objects, and communities. The exhibition unfolds across galleries that trace the Museum's evolution from the present day back to its beginnings in the 1970s. Date: Now - Sep 1, 2026. Details: [https://textilemuseum.ca/event/made-by-many-50-years-of-the-textile-museum-of-canada/?mc\\_cid=1515c0bbbc&mc\\_eid=a14aed2446](https://textilemuseum.ca/event/made-by-many-50-years-of-the-textile-museum-of-canada/?mc_cid=1515c0bbbc&mc_eid=a14aed2446)



**GLOBAL THREADS: INDIA'S TEXTILE REVOLUTION** **Exhibition** Dec. 13, 2025 – April 5, 2026. Bowers Museum, Santa Ana, Calif. Made with novel cotton, vivid colors and exuberant design, the painted and printed cottons of India changed human history; they revolutionized art, fashion and science wherever they went around the globe. Featuring pieces from the world-renowned collection of the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), and several important international loans, this ROM-original exhibition explores how over thousands of years India's artisans have created, perfected and innovated these printed and painted multicolored cotton fabrics to fashion the body, honor divinities, and beautify palaces and homes. This exhibition considers India's textile innovations and their influences on fashion, trade and industry around the world in places as far as Cairo, Japan, Sumatra, London, and Ottawa. Details: <https://www.bowers.org/index.php/exhibitions/upcoming-exhibitions/global-threads-india's-textile-revolution>

**READ** TMA/SC Member and LACMA Conservator Kristal Hale's Review of this exhibition when it was at the St. Louis Museum of Art (Enlarge the text on the linked PDF):

<https://files.constantcontact.com/a37991c4801/bc12f2f4-0908-45e2-ac53-f814d06e9020.pdf>

### **SUIT YOURSELF: 100 YEARS OF MENSWEAR 1750 – 1850.** **Exhibition.**

**Now – March 15, 2026.** Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam. During the macaroni period in the 1750s-1770s, a flamboyant style flourished, with lots of color and contrasting fabrics. The fashion was extravagant and colorful. Men were proud and showed off their silk waistcoats and shoes with shiny stones on the buckles. They also expressed their status and wealth with their clothes. Although these clothes were worn by men and made by tailors, the fabrics were woven and embroidered by women, specialized craftsmen. In the 19th century, the style changed under the influence of industrialization, which increased the availability of fabrics and ready-made garments. DETAILS: <https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/collection/node/Suit-Yourself-100-years-of-menswear-1750-1850--2e6bda952dd040b7b3d776d3b85b94f4>





**AYMARA WEAVINGS: THE INDIGENOUS ANDES** **Exhibition.** January 30–September 13, 2026 St. Louis Art Museum. This exhibition presents exceptional weavings by Aymara artists and related works from the Central Andes. Dating primarily to the 18th and 19th centuries, these skirts, mantles, and ponchos demonstrate how artists in Bolivia maintained and reinvented ancient artistic practices to express Indigenous identities during the colonial era. While pattern and form vary considerably across type, the textiles in this exhibition share a number of characteristics. Each design reflects the vertical structure of the warp yarns, made from exceptional hand-spun and -dyed fibers harvested from camelids such as alpaca and vicuña. Details: <https://www.slam.org/exhibitions/aymara-weavings-the-indigenous-andes/>

**HAWAII: A KINGDOM CROSSING OCEANS.** **Exhibition.** January 15 to May 25, 2026. The British Museum, London, UK. This exhibition is a dazzling celebration of the artistry and history of Hawai'i. The exhibition brings together remarkable objects – from feathered cloaks worn by chiefs and finely carved deities, to powerful shark-toothed weapons and bold contemporary works by Kānaka 'Ōiwi (Native Hawaiian) artists. A compelling story of movement, alliance and cultural exchange – past, present and future – the show sheds light on Hawai'i's history and culture through an exploration of the complex and enduring relationship between the Hawaiian and British nations. Details: <https://www.britishmuseum.org/exhibitions/hawaii-kingdom-crossing-oceans>



**COSTUME COUTURE: SIXTY YEARS OF COSPROP** **Exhibition.** Now – March 8, 2026. Fashion + Textile Museum, London, UK. From *A Room with a View*, to *Downton Abbey* and *Peaky Blinders*, explore some of the most famous costumes from film and television. Cosprop has changed the way that costume is designed and created. Founded by Oscar and BAFTA-winning costume designer John Bright in 1965, legendary London based Cosprop specializes in period costume for film, television and theatre. Through his work as a costume designer, a costumier, maker, advisor, collector and historian, Bright's intelligence and eye for detail is in thousands of film, television and stage productions. Details: <https://fashiontextilemuseum.org/exhibitionsdisplays/costume-couture-sixty-years-of-cosprop/>

**A TRAVELING THREAD.** **Exhibition,** Now – March 8, 2026, The Musée du Quai Branly Jacques Chirac, Paris, France. An extraordinary meeting of Andean skill and contemporary creation is the central theme of this exhibition, emerging from sixty years of discussions, travel and friendship between two women with remarkable careers. Monique Lévi-Strauss, an art historian, has dedicated her life to the study of textile practices in the non-Western world. Her friendship with American fiber artist Sheila Hicks has led to a rich dialogue between old collections and current works. The exhibition frames some twenty pieces preserved at the museum in response to around thirty creations by Sheila Hicks. DETAILS:

<https://www.quaibranly.fr/en/exhibitions-and-events/at-the-museum/exhibitions/event-details/e/le-fil-voyageur>



**THE MCCOY JONES COLLECTION: TEXTILES FROM CENTRAL ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST** **Exhibition** Now – June 7, 2026 San Francisco Fine Arts Museums/de Young, San Francisco, California. Featuring rugs and embroideries from the McCoy Jones Collection, this exhibition highlights the work of different tribes and cultural groups from across Central Asia and the Middle East. Drawn from one of the largest collections of Central Asian and Middle Eastern nomadic textiles in the United States, the works on view range from furnishings and wedding embroideries from Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to a contemporary textile sculpture. Details: <https://www.famsf.org/exhibitions/mccoy-jones-textiles-central-asia-middle-east>

### **RESTITCHED: FEED SACKS IN MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY QUILTS**

**Exhibition.** **Nov 22, 2025 - May 10, 2026.** Mingei International Museum, San Diego, CA. Opening this fall, colorful quilts made from stitched feed sacks highlight the resourcefulness of early mid-twentieth century makers. In the 1930s and '40s, people affected by the Great Depression repurposed feed sacks—cotton bags used to package bulk dry goods—to make domestic items like quilts and clothes. Commercial manufacturers began printing feed sacks with vibrant patterns and prints, which gave rise to the incredible phenomenon of handmade feed sack textiles. This collection celebrates the ingenuity and creativity of feed sack quilters. Details: <https://mingei.org/exhibitions/restitched>



**ISLAMIC ART: A JOURNEY OF SPLENDOR** **Exhibition** **Now - October 11, 2026,** National Museum of Korea, Seoul. This exhibition presents 85 masterworks drawn from the Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) in Doha. The exhibition aims to introduce Korean and world audiences to the richness, diversity, and interconnectedness of Islamic civilization across 1,400 years and a vast geography spanning Spain to Southeast Asia. The exhibition frames Islamic civilization not as a monolithic entity, but as a dynamic, multicultural, and exchange-driven world, shaped by encounters across continents, religions, and cultures. The exhibition includes the Clark Sickle-Leaf Throne Carpet and other textiles. Details: [https://mia.org.qa/en/calendar/islamic-art-a-journey-of-splendor/?mc\\_cid=810ef6a439&mc\\_eid=a14aed2446](https://mia.org.qa/en/calendar/islamic-art-a-journey-of-splendor/?mc_cid=810ef6a439&mc_eid=a14aed2446)

**INTERPRETATIONS 2025** **Exhibition.** **October 18 – January 31, 2026.** Visions Museum of Textile Art, San Diego, Calif. **Interpretations 2025** beautifully embodies the mission of the Visions Museum of Textile Art: to honor and share the vibrant legacy, craftsmanship, and cultural depth of quilting and textile arts. This captivating biennial juried exhibition features some of the most groundbreaking textile art being created today. With artists hailing from across the globe, the show fosters connection and uplifts the human spirit through the boundless creativity found in thread, fabric, and fiber. Details: <https://vmota.org/interpretations-2025/> (Illustration of TMA/SC Member Meredith Strauss Jackson's piece, "Crosswalks".)



**PAINTED WORLDS: COLOR AND CULTURE IN MESOAMERICAN ART** **Exhibition.** **Nov. 1, 2025 – Feb. 8, 2026.** Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City (originally at LA County Museum of Art.) Mesoamerican artists held a cosmic responsibility: as they adorned the surfaces of buildings, clay vessels, **textiles**, bark-paper pages, and sculptures with color, they (quite literally) made the world. The power of color emerged from the materiality of its pigments, the skilled hands that crafted it, and the communities whose knowledge imbued it with meaning. By engineering and deploying color, artists wielded the power of cosmic creation in their hands. *We Live in Painting: The Nature of Color in Mesoamerican Art* explores the science, art, and cosmology of color in Mesoamerica. Details: <https://tinyurl.com/WeLiveInColorSt-Louis>



**ON LOSS AND ABSENCE: TEXTILES OF MOURNING AND SURVIVAL** **Exhibition** **Sept, 6, 2025 – March 15, 2026.** Art Institute of Chicago. Drawn primarily from the Art Institute of Chicago's collection, *On Loss and Absence* brings together over 100 objects from diverse cultures dating from antiquity to today to reveal the ways people use textiles to sustain spiritual beliefs, understand death, cope with grief, remember those who have passed, and heal from trauma, both personally and collectively. Details: <https://www.artic.edu/exhibitions/9772/on-loss-and-absence-textiles-of-mourning-and-survival>

**CREATURES AND CAPTIVES: PAINTED TEXTILES OF THE ANCIENT ANDES** **Exhibition** Now - Feb 22, 2026. Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX. For centuries, ancient Andean artists painted animals, humans, abstract motifs, and mythical beings on undyed cotton cloth. Showcasing a subtle color palette, these painted textiles have long been overshadowed by textiles woven from brightly dyed cotton and woolen yarns. *Creatures and Captives: Painted Textiles of the Ancient Andes* presents examples from the DMA's collection highlighting this lesser-known Andean textile tradition, and features exciting new research carried out through institutional collaborations. Details: [https://dma.org/art/exhibitions/creatures-and-captives-painted-textiles-ancient-andes?mc\\_cid=b4af08b3fd&mc\\_eid=a14aed2446](https://dma.org/art/exhibitions/creatures-and-captives-painted-textiles-ancient-andes?mc_cid=b4af08b3fd&mc_eid=a14aed2446)



**WOVEN IN WOOL: RESILIENCE IN COAST SALISH WEAVING** **Exhibition.** Sept. 13, 2025 – Aug. 30, 2026. Burke Museum, Seattle. This exhibition showcases both historical and contemporary woven items, including blankets, tunics, hoods, and skirts. Journey through the seasonal cycle of weaving, from gathering materials and spinning wool to dyeing with natural ingredients and weaving intricate designs. Along the way, learn firsthand from weavers and gain insight into the deep cultural and scientific knowledge embedded in every strand. Details: <https://www.burkemuseum.org/exhibits/woven-wool-resilience-coast-salish-weaving>



**ARTS OF THE ANCIENT AMERICAS** **Exhibition.** May 31, 2025 – Ongoing. The MET Fifth Avenue, New York, New York. Following a multiyear renovation, The Met is reopening its suite of galleries dedicated to the Arts of the Ancient Americas in the Michael C. Rockefeller Wing in late May 2025. Among the major innovations is a gallery to display ancient Andean textiles—the first of its kind in the United States. Intricately woven garments and hangings—some over 2,000 years old—will be shown in a gallery with state-of-the-art casework and lighting. These delicate, light-sensitive textiles and featherworks will be rotated periodically, allowing for a dynamic presentation of one of the world's great fiber arts traditions. <https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/arts-of-the-ancient-americas>