



Textiles of Southeast Asia: Tradition, Trade and Transformation

By Robyn Maxwell

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Textiles of Southeast Asia: Tradition, Trade and Transformation By Robyn Maxwell

Textiles provide a visual history of a country's culture and crafting traditions in a way few other things can accomplish. In *Textiles of Southeast Asia*, Dr. Robyn Maxwell provides the definitive work on Southeast Asian textiles.

Traditional textiles are one of the most widely collected and important categories of Southeast Asian art. Using an extensive range of locally produced raw materials and an astonishing array of techniques—including applique, weaving, batik and embroidery—the textiles of Southeast Asia are astonishing in their versatility and originality. Textiles are used to fashion everything from everyday clothing to sacred and ceremonial costumes, shrouds and wrapping cloths, hangings, banners and ritual regalia—all of which are represented and explained in *Textiles of Southeast Asia*.

This authoritative text focuses on the changing relationship between indigenous Southeast Asian traditions and the outside influences continuing to be brought to the area, which change the nature of the region's textile traditions. This book considers the various ways Southeast Asian textile artisans reacted over the centuries to the steady stream of new and powerful ideas and raw materials arriving from India, China, the Islamic world and Europe. A detailed and definitive resource, *Textiles of Southeast Asia* is a welcome addition to the field of textiles.

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Editorial Review

Review

"She has certainly succeeded admirably in masterfully exploring the foundations, major foreign influences, and the diverse and complex meanings that textiles have had for the various peoples of the region ... Will be a standard work for years to come." —*Journal of Asian Studies*

"This important volume should interest students of ethnic textiles as well as the general reader." —*Choice magazine*

"A great educational and reference read on textiles, its historical origin and the changes it has gone through over the years. If you've got a passion to be in the fashion industry, this is one book that you should read." —*A Shopaholics Den blog*

"If you're after in depth knowledge on the history, culture and influences on the area this really is the book for you." —*The Asian Fashion Journal*

About the Author

Dr. Robyn Maxwell is a curator in the Department of Asian Art at the Australian National Gallery, Canberra. She has organized a number of exhibitions and is published widely on Southeast Asian art.

Dr. Matiebelle Gittinger is Research Associate at the Textile Museum, Washington, D.C. and the author of numerous books and articles on Southeast Asian textiles, including *Splendid Symbols: Textiles and Traditions in Indonesia*.

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