

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Fall 2014
The Arts of the Islamic World
Sponsored by The Society for Asian Art

“Ex Oriente Lux: Luxury Textiles and Oriental Carpets” Carol Bier, 31 October 2014

Key Topics

Islamic Textiles, Technology, and Trade Our English textile terminology reflects trade in luxury textiles from the Islamic world:

e.g. damask, muslin, calico, taffeta, chintz, khaki, cashmere, caftan, shawl, pajama Textile functions: architecture/furnishings, clothing/fashion, containers, animal control Products of technology; objects of trade; cultural artifacts; works of art *Tiraz* and *khila*; Yemeni ikat Figural silks and textile patterns Court and commerce; trade and diplomacy Oriental carpets and Islamic textiles: luxury in a commercial world Meaning and metaphor; textiles and technology Opulence and extravagance Ottoman caftans; Persian velvets

Online Resources

(Websites accessed 9 October 2014)

- C. Bier, “Pattern Power: Textiles and the Transmission of Knowledge,” *Textile Society of American Symposium Proceedings* (2004) <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/tsaconf/444/>
Symmetry and Pattern: The Art of Oriental Carpets, <http://mathforum.org/geometry/rugs/>
“Carpets and History,” *Saudi Aramco World* (May/June 1989),
<http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com/issue/198903/carpets.and.history.htm>
“Warps & Wefts,” *Saudi Aramco World Magazine* (2009),
<http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com/issue/200806/documents/ND08Calendar.pdf>
- L. Komaroff, on textiles in Early Islamic Art (Los Angeles County Museum of Art),
http://www.lacma.org/islamic_art/eia.htm
- S. Krody, “The Sultan’s Garden: The Blossoming of Ottoman Art” (exhibition on Ottoman textiles at The Textile Museum in Washington, DC, 21 September 2012 – 10 March 2013),
<http://museum.gwu.edu/sultansgarden-blossoming-ottoman-art>
- A. Liivandi and K. Ruehrdanz, “Cairo under Wraps: Early Islamic Textiles” (exhibition at the Royal Ontario Museum, 21 June 2014 – 25 January 2015),
<https://www.rom.on.ca/en/exhibitions galleries/exhibitions/cairo-under-wraps-early-islamic-textiles>
- L. Mackie, “Floral Delights: Textiles from Islamic Lands” (exhibition at Cleveland Museum of Art, 13 July 2014 – 28 June 2015), <http://www.clevelandart.org/events/exhibitions/floral-delight-textiles-islamic-lands>
- N. H. Munroe, “Early Islamic Textiles: Inscribed Garments,” *Byzantium and Islam: Age of Transition Exhibition Blog*, <http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2012/byzantium-and-islam/blog/topicalessays/posts/inscribed-garments>
- K. S. Rubinson, “Carpets: vi. Pre-Islamic carpets,” *Encyclopaedia Iranica*
<http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/carpets-vi>
- D. F. Ruggles, “Muslim Journeys | Item #223: Islamic Textiles,”
<http://bridgingcultures.neh.gov/muslimjourneys/items/show/223>.
- M. Sardar, “Carpets from the Islamic World, 1600-1800,” *Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History*,

http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/crpt/hd_crpt.htm

Textiles of al-Andalus (Islamic Spain), <http://www.islamicspain.tv/Arts-and-Science/The-Culture-of-Andalus/Textiles.htm>

Additional Resources and Recommended Readings

Atasoy, Nurhan, Walter B. Denny, Julian Raby, Şerife Atlihan, and Alison Effeny 2001. *İpek, The Crescent & The Rose: Imperial Ottoman Silks and Velvets*. Azimuth.

Baker, Patricia L. 1995. *Islamic Textiles*. London: British Museum.

Balfour-Paul, Jenny 1997. *Indigo in the Arab World*. Richmond: Curzon.

Barnes, Ruth 1997. *Indian Block-Printed Textiles in Egypt: The Newberry Collection in The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford*. Oxford, Clarendon.

Bier, Carol 1995. *The Persian Velvets at Rosenborg*. Copenhagen, Rosenborg.

Bier, Carol, ed. 1987. *Woven from the Soul, Spun from the Heart: Textile Arts of Safavid and Qajar Iran, 16th -19th centuries*. Washington: The Textile Museum. Denny, Walter B. 2002. *The Classical Tradition in Anatolian Carpets*. Washington and London: Scala.

Gillow, John 2010. *Textiles of the Islamic World*. London: Thames & Hudson.

Gordon, Stewart 2001. *Robes and Honor: The Medieval World of Investiture*. New York: Palgrave.

El-Guidi, Fadwa, ed. 2000. *Veil: Modesty, Privacy, and Resistance*. Oxford/New York: Berg.

Gunsburger, Cecilia, ed. 2005. *The Textile Museum Thesaurus*. Washington DC: The Textile Museum.

King, Donald and David Sylvester 1983. *The Eastern Carpet in the Western World*. London: Arts Council of Great Britain.

Krody, Sumru 2000. *Flowers of Silk and Gold: Four Centuries of Ottoman Embroidery*. London: Merrell.

Krody, Sumru, ed. 2010. *Colors of the Oasis: Central Asian Ikats*. Washington DC: The Textile Museum.

Mackie, Louise W. and Jon Thompson 1980. *Turkmen: Tribal Carpets and Traditions*. Washington DC: The Textile Museum.

Scarce, Jennifer M. 1987. *Women's Costume of the Near and Middle East*. London: Unwin Hyman.

Scott, Philippa 1993. *The Book of Silk*. New York: Thames & Hudson.

Serjeant, R. B. 1972. *Islamic Textiles: Materials for a History up to the Mongol Conquest*. Beirut: Librairie du Liban.

Tapper, Richard and Jon Thompson 2002. *The Nomadic Peoples of Iran*. London: Azimuth.

Tarlo, Emma 2010. *Visibly Muslim: Fashion, Politics, Faith*. Oxford: Berg.

Vogelsang-Eastwood, Gillian 2008. *Covering the Moon: An Introduction to Middle Eastern Face Veils*. Leuven: Peeters.

von Falsach, Kjeld 1993. *Woven Treasures: Textiles from the World of Islam*. Copenhagen: The David Collection.

Wardwell, Anne E. and James C. Y. Watt 1997. *When Silk was Gold: Central Asian and Chinese Textiles*. New York: The Metropolitan Museum of Art.