

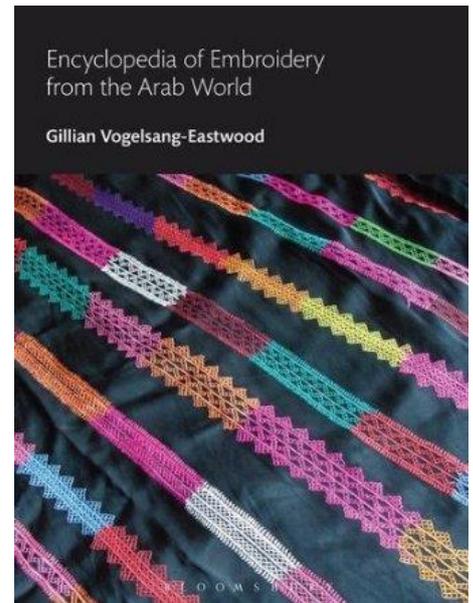


# Textile Research Centre Newsletter February 2016

## It's Out!!

We are very pleased to announce the arrival of the *Encyclopedia of Embroidery from the Arab World*, London: Bloomsbury Academic Press, edited by Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood, director TRC. The encyclopaedia will be officially launched during a meeting at the Petrie Museum in London on 3 March 2016.

In order to celebrate this event, the TRC will open its doors in the afternoon on Saturday, 5 March, to give people the opportunity to admire the book and to see the TRC's new exhibition on gold and silver decorated garments and textiles. Many of the pieces on display are illustrated the encyclopaedia. The book costs 150 pounds ( as far as we know now), but we have spoken with Bloomsbury and visitors will have the chance to obtain a special voucher for a 35% discount on the book, but only if you come in person to the TRC on Saturday 5 March to pick the voucher up (the voucher is only valid for two weeks).



There will also be a talk given by the principal author at 14.30 at the TRC about embroidery from the Arab World in general.

Entrance is free. TRC will be open from 14.00 until 17.00 hours. There will be coffee and tea and of course biscuits.

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## Decorated with gold and silver

1 February until 30 June 2016.

The new and spectacular TRC exhibition focuses on the use of gold and silver threads, sheet gold and paints, to decorate textiles and garments. On display is a wide range of textiles, garments and headgear from Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The exhibition includes Egyptian textiles from

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the 13th century AD as well as some rare velvet and silk European textiles from the 17th and 18th centuries woven with metal threads (gold, gilt and silver forms). The majority of items dates from the 20th century and reflects a wide range of uses and decorative techniques.

*A modern example of headgear (doppe) from Uzbekistan, decorated with gold coloured metal thread. TRC collection.*

The exhibition also includes several elaborate and early pieces from Indonesia, as well as applied and embroidered textiles and garments, such as 19th century church embroidery, a bridal outfit from India and a festive outfit from Oman. There is even a section about garments made of metal, such as an elaborate Miao woman's headpiece from China and a dancing girdle from Malaysia made of silver coins. There is much more to see and use as a source of inspiration.

Venue: TRC, Hogewoerd 164, Leiden. Entrance is free, but voluntary donations are welcome

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## Wednesday Workshops

The Wednesday Workshops are proving to be very popular and some people are even booking six consecutive places in advance. The normal Wednesday Workshop runs from 10.00 to 13.00 and is held at the TRC, Hogewoerd 164, Leiden. Registration costs: 25 euro. For further information please contact us at [info@trc-leiden.nl](mailto:info@trc-leiden.nl).

The next few workshops include:

### 24<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016

#### **Bethlehem and Palestinian Embroidery Workshop:**

Due to the unexpected (but very pleasing) demand for places on the **Palestinian/Bethlehem embroidery workshop** on the 24th February, we are going to run it twice, the first time on Wednesday 24th February (Wednesday, 10.00 until 13.00; now fully booked) and then on **Saturday 27th February (13.00 until 16.00)**. The workshops are given by Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood, a specialist in Middle Eastern embroidery.

### 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016

#### **Japanese Kimonos**

This Wednesday morning will be used to look at various aspects of an iconic garment from Japan, namely the kimono. We will start with a general introduction to the kimono, worn by men, women and children in Japan for many centuries. Then we will use some of the kimonos from the

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TRC collection to have a close look and try to understand how they are worn and how the various elements (a kimono is not only one specific piece of attire, it is also a set of some ten different elements) are being brought together. Participants are welcome to bring their own kimonos for us to discuss! The workshop will be given by Anna Beerens, a specialist in Japanese culture, with a particular interest in the history of the kimono and kimono wearing.

**28<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

### **Nålbinding**

The participants of this workshop are being introduced to *nålbinding*, an ancient technique that is used to produce textiles with a thread and a needle. The technique is thousands of years old. The oldest examples are known from the Middle East (mid-seventh millennium BC). Examples are known from Scandinavia that date to the mid-fifth millennium BC. It is still widely practised in Scandinavia, especially in Sweden. During the workshop we look at (pre-) historic and ethnographic examples of *nålbinding*, before trying out the technique ourselves, practising the basic stitches and variations.

The workshop is given by Dorothee Olthof, one of the founders of PRAI, the *Prehistorisch Re-enactment, Archaeologie en Educatie* group ([info@prae-biz](mailto:info@prae-biz)).

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## **Ancient Egyptian Sewing Bee**

9 April 2016

In April 2016 the TRC is organising a one-day workshop on sewing (hems and seams), mending, as well as beading and embroidering techniques from ancient Egypt. This meeting follows on a similar and very successful sewing bee, organised in London's Petrie Museum, on 11 December 2015. The examples used for the meeting are all based on actual techniques identified on linen textiles and garments from various excavations in Egypt, including that of the famous Egyptian pharaoh, Tutankhamun, as well as objects in museums throughout the world.

Following the example of the very successful TRC Wednesday morning workshops, this full day will be filled with brief talks, PowerPoint presentation(s) and actively trying out various forms of ancient Egyptian needlework. The workshop is given by Dr. Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood, a specialist in ancient Egyptian textiles and clothing. No experience in sewing required. Materials, threads, beads, etc., will be provided.

Date: Saturday 9 April 2016; venue: TRC, Hogewoerd 164, Leiden; time: 09.30 – 16.30; lecturer: Dr. Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood, director TRC; language: Dutch (English if required); costs: 55 euros per person inc. materials (lunch is not provided); number of participants: a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 15 people; Registration: [info@trc-leiden.nl](mailto:info@trc-leiden.nl)

**Nota bene:** the next sewing bee is scheduled for **Saturday 18 June**, when attention will focus on the many ways to 'do' a cross-stitch. You can register now.

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