1998

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CREATING TEXTILES:
Makers, Methods and Markets

Proceedings of the
Sixth Biennial Symposium
of the Textile Society of America, Inc.

New York, New York
1998

Textile Society of America, Inc.
CREATING TEXTILES:
MAKERS, METHODS, MARKETS
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTH BIENNIAL SYMPOSIUM
OF THE TEXTILE SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

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This volume contains papers delivered at the Sixth Biennial
Symposium of the textile Society of American, Inc. held at
the Fashion Institute, New York City, September 23-26, 1998.

The Textile Society of America, Inc. provides a forum for the exchange and dissemination of
information about the historic, cultural, socio-economic, artistic and technical aspects of textiles. It was
founded in 1987 and is governed by a Board of Directors which includes scholars from museums and
universities, as well as fiber artists.

The Proceedings of each biennial symposium are distributed as a benefit of membership. The previous
titles are:

1988 Textiles as Primary Sources*
1990 Textiles in Trade*
1992 Textiles in Daily Life
1994 Contact, Crossover, Continuity*
1996 Sacred and Ceremonial Textiles

The titles marked with an asterisk (*) are OUT OF PRINT. 1992 and 1996 volumes are available toTSA
members at $35.00, and to non-members at $45.00. The current volume is available as a 1999 membership
benefit to Textile Society of America members.

For information about membership, shipping charges and payment methods, contact:
Textile Society of America, Inc.
P.O. Box 70, Earleville, Md. 21919-0070
Phone (410) 275-2329 Fax (410) 275-8936 Email: tsa@dol.net
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PREFACE

The Sixth Biennial Symposium of the Textile Society of America was held at New York City's Fashion Institute of Technology, (F.I.T.)—and at museums, historic houses, design houses, workshops and studios in and around New York—from September 23-26, 1998.

Within the theme of the symposium, "Creating Textiles: Makers, Methods, Markets," speakers examined the roles that personal needs, aesthetic issues, cultural imperatives, technological factors and market forces have played and continue to play in designing and making textiles, whether individually or mass-produced, whether functional or fine art.

An additional presentation format was introduced at this symposium: the Site Seminar, in which both juried papers and invited presentations were given at textile-related sites throughout New York City. This format enabled speakers to present—in depth, through actual objects—original research to small groups of pre-registered participants. The Site Seminars complemented a full schedule of traditional slide-illustrated lectures at F.I.T.

This Proceedings represents the juried contributions to the 1998 Symposium, including both papers given in the traditional format at FIT and those given less formally at Site Seminars. Forty-seven papers, twenty-two abstracts, and one summary report of a panel discussion are contained within this volume. The topics range from detailed examinations of a specific technique or structure to broader studies of the forces affecting textile production within an industry or culture. The explorations of archaeological, ethnographic, historic and contemporary textiles contained in this volume will convey to the reader both the vibrancy of the symposium and the extraordinary richness of the textile resources of New York City.

Madelyn Shaw
Symposium Program Coordinator
The Textile Museum, Washington, DC