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Textiles Re:imagined: Delve Into The Minds Of 50 Of The World's Most Innovative And Inspiring Textile And Fiber Artists (Formerly 3D Mixed Media Textile Art)



Synopsis

Textiles Re:imagined will take you on a journey of discovery as you share in the stories of 50 diverse artists, all of whom demonstrate excellence in workmanship and design. This is your "behind the scenes" pass into how the artists got to where they are today, what inspires them and the processes they use to create their breathtakingly beautiful work. Immerse yourself in a world of possibility within the realm of textile and fiber art and embrace the freedom to explore new concepts and ideas. In compiling this book for you and other passionate, creative people just like you, we sought to challenge preconceptions about what constitutes "textile art". The work of the 50 featured artists honours tradition in many cases, but is always innovative, exciting and contemporary. By covering such a wide and varied range of materials and techniques (including embroidery, sculpture, basketry, beading, printing, dyeing, weaving and much more), our aim is that you will be inspired to experiment and push the boundaries of your own practice. And of course, as fiber art is a visual medium there is a huge array of sumptuously vibrant images of the artists' work to stimulate you further.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is a serious educational resource that elevates 3D mixed media textile art in a very profound way. Yet, it goes further than merely showcasing the creations of 50 artists (most are women--over half from the UK). Each artist is named and given a very brief introduction. Then, a "Beginnings" passage reveals how the artist first became aware of an interest in textiles. As a parent, I was touched by the realization that so many are drawn to this medium through witnessing their mothers/grandmothers weave. It is a testament to the powerful influence of the maternal on a young child's life. This book seems especially helpful for budding artists unsure of which concentration to pursue in college/university. It also provides hope to those more advanced in age thinking it's too late to fulfil their passion to become fruitful artists. Personally, this book gives me confirmation that I am still an artist. Though my obsession with acrylic painting has waned, I now see that following my passion has simply led me to a different medium. Occasionally, an artist generously shares a personal struggle or academic failure that threatened to discourage and derail him/her from continuing on that creative journey. I found one question by Pate Conaway to be particularly sobering: "What have I told myself I cannot do?" "Inspiration" is where the artist relays what materials, philosophy and space directly inspires the art. "Process and Practice" allows the artist to disclose the specifics of the planning and/or experimentation involved. Understandably, the artists display varying degrees of candor.

What a beautiful book this is, and such a labor of love, inspired as it was, by the authors' mother, Sue Stone, and her textile art. Ms Stone's work, however, isn't represented here because the focus of this book is on mixed media artists who use textiles in a significant way within a larger context of various and mixed media. The artists featured here are both abstract and figurative, they work in craftsman's idioms, as well as creating sculptural and painterly work. There are artists, like Faig Ahmed, who deconstructs the iconic Oriental rugs with which he grew up, to create works that express the tension between old and new in both art and society. There's Polly Pollock who uses basketry to explore texture and rhythm. and Lisa Solomon, who uses traditional techniques to comment on the social connotations of fiber and textile work. And there are so many more. This book is a great introduction to several dozen talented artists who expand the language of textile art by mixing those textiles with an astounding variety of other media. They take materials and techniques which are often marginalized as being "ethnic" or "women's media" and create work that both expands far beyond those boundaries, and at the same time comments on the expectations that come along with those materials and techniques. Joe and Sam Pitcher have done a terrific job drawing together disparate artists, giving the reader an insight into how these men and women

work, and showing us some very exciting textile and mixed media work. I honestly hope they choose to release this book in a hard copy edition because there is so much to see here, and the computer screen doesn't entirely do it justice.

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