
2009 Annual Meeting
Weaving Across Time and Space: The Political Economy of Textiles
April 2-4, 2009
Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, University of California, Los Angeles

Co-Chairs: Walter E. Little (SUNY-Albany) and Patricia A. McAnany (UNC, Chapel Hill)

Host: Charles Stanish and Helle Girey (UCLA-Cotsen Institute)

Textiles have been a central part of the economies and politics of human societies across culture divides and over millennia. The economy of textiles provides insight into the fabric of social relations, local and global politics, and diverse ideologies. Textile production and exchange represent a key node for the intersections of multiple aspects of ancient and modern economies, including social-class relations, gender, tourism, exchange, commerce, and trans-polity relationships. A political economy of textiles, discussed from a broad interdisciplinary perspective, offers ways to understand cloth and clothing as parts of mutually constitutive processes that shape and reflect economic practices, cultural ideologies, and socio-political rank. Clothing is a material element of society that fosters the study of continuities and disjunctions in the economic and social realities of past and present societies. From stick-loom weaving to transnational factories, the production of cloth and its transformation into clothing and other woven goods offers a way to study the linkages between economics and politics.

MEETING PROGRAM:

Thursday, 6:00pm - Editorial Board Meeting

Thursday, 7:00pm - Executive Board Meeting

Friday AM Downstairs Lounge of Faculty Center

8:30 - 9am: Opening Remarks

9:00am to Noon: *Paper Session I: Archaeological Approaches Textiles*

Session Chair:

9:00am - 9:40am: CLOTH AND ITS FUNCTIONS IN THE INCA STATE: JOHN MURRA'S ECONOMIC ANTHROPOLOGY, Rhoda H. Halperin (Montclair State University)

9:40am - 10:20am: COTTON TEXTILES IN THE ECONOMY OF HOHOKAM, AD 500 TO 1100, Robert C. Hunt (Brandeis University)

10:20am - 10:40am: *Coffee Break*

10:40am - 11:20am: COMMODITIES, TRIBUTE, AND INALIENABLE POSSESSIONS: SHIFTING SEGMENTS OF ANCIENT MAYA TEXTILE ECONOMIES, Christina T. Halperin (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

11:20am - 12:00pm: HYBRID TEXTILES, HYBRID SOCIAL IDENTITIES: PRODUCING CLOTH AND PRODUCING SOCIAL STRUCTURE IN THE LATE HORIZON ANDES, Cathy Lynne Costin (California State University, Northridge)

Banquet Lunch (12:00 - 2pm) in the Sequoia Room

Hassan Sachedina, Schneider Prize Graduate Student Paper Winner, MINING, MIGRATION, AND LAND USE CHANGE IN THE TARANGIRE ECOSYSTEM OF TANZANIA

Friday PM Downstairs Lounge of Faculty Center

2:00pm to 4:15pm: *Paper Session II: Symbolism of Textiles in Economic Context*

Session Chair:

2:00pm - 2:40pm: THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF AN ART FORM: THE AKOTIFAHANA CLOTH OF MADAGASCAR AND INDIAN OCEAN TRADE NETWORKS, Sarah Fee, (Musée du Quai Branly, Paris)

2:40pm - 3:20pm: TIVIAVAI IN THE COOK ISLANDS CEREMONIAL ECONOMY: THE MOVEMENT OF CASH, PRESTIGE, FOOD AND TEXTILES ADORNED, Jane Horan (University of Auckland)

3:20pm - 4:00pm: THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF SIX SUMATRAN SONGKETS, Susan Rodgers (College

of the Holy Cross)

4:15pm to 5:15pm: *Textile Exhibit, Center of the Study of Regional Dress, Room 2450, Fowler Museum at UCLA.*

5:30-7:00pm: **Posters with Reception at Cotsen Institute for Archaeology**

(Basement of the Fowler Museum)

SURVIVING THE CHANGE: UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS IN KAZAKHSTAN AND UZBEKISTAN

Darya Bukhtoyarova (University of Kentucky)

SOCIAL AND NATURAL DISASTERS IN OAXACA

Lise E Byars (The Ohio State University)

HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS AND CHANGE IN ZIMÁTLAN DE ÁLVAREZ, OAXACA

Nadia Merino Chávez (Ohio State University)

Nidia Merino Chávez (San Diego State University)

GOOD HANDS: SILK WEAVING AND TRANSNATIONAL ARTISAN PARTNERSHIPS (TAPS) IN CAMBODIA

Susan Falls (Savannah College of Art and Design)

Jessica Smith (Savannah College of Art and Design)

INSTITUTIONAL DISCRIMINATION: *THE CRIMINALIZATION AND DEMORALIZATION OF WOMEN IN THE INFORMAL SECTOR*

Ana Hasemann (University of Kentucky)

LIVING TO EAT' IN COCHABAMBA, BOLIVIA: GLOBAL FOOD IN THE LOCAL ECONOMY OF A 'HYBRID' CITY

Jill Laskowski, Schneider Prize Undergraduate Student Paper Winner

SUBSISTENCE ACTIVITIES AT TWO MIDDLE FORT COMMUNITIES

Kristie R. Martin (The Ohio State University)

A VISUAL HISTORY OF STYLE CHANGE IN ZINACANTEC TRADITIONAL CLOTHING

Robin O'Brian (Elmira College)

ANDEAN WEAVERS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH INCREASING REGIONAL TOURISM

Angela Orlando, MA (UCLA)

ILLEGAL BUSINESS PRACTICES IN THE INFORMAL AND ILLEGAL CLOTHES MARKETS

Johanna A Parra Bautista (University of Paris)

TRANSNATIONAL BENEFITS? THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COSTS OF MIGRATION AND THE CULTURAL PRACTICE OF OAXACAN BASKETBALL IN LOS ANGELES, CA

Bernardo Ramirez Rios (The Ohio State University)

SOMALI WOMEN, PROFESSIONALISM, AND ECONOMICS IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

Marnie Shaffer (The Ohio State University)

TECHNICAL COMPETENCE IN WEAVING AS CULTURAL VALUE AND SYMBOLIC MEANS OF DISTINCTION AMONG THE MACHA INDIANS OF NORTHERN POTOSI, BOLIVIA

Cassandra Torrico (Independent Scholar)

Saturday AM Downstairs Lounge of Faculty Center

9:00am to Noon: *Paper Session III: Political Economies of Textile Production*

Session Chair: Dolores Koenig

9:00am - 9:40am: CREATIVITY, PLACE, AND ACCUMULATION: THE MAKING OF PUBLIC ECONOMIES IN ANDEAN APPAREL INDUSTRIES, Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld (University of North Carolina) & Jason Antrosio (Hartwick College)

9:40am - 10:20am: THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF CLOTH PRODUCTION IN A MOROCCAN BAZAAR, John A. Napora (University of South Florida)

10:20am - 10:40am: *Coffee Break*

10:40am - 11:20am: THE *IDEA* OF HANDLOOM: FAME AND FORTUNE IN KERALA, SOUTH INDIA? Lucy Norris (University College London)

11:20am - 12:00pm: THE DEATH OF A COOPERATIVE, Kimberly Hart (Buffalo State College)

12:00pm - 2pm: Lunch On Your Own

Saturday PM Downstairs Lounge of Faculty Center

2:00pm to 5:20pm: *Paper Session IV: Global Economic Impacts on Textiles and Markets*

Session Chair: Jeffrey Cohen

2:00pm - 2:40pm: EXCHANGE WITHOUT BROKERS: WEAVER-CLIENT RELATIONSHIPS IN SENEGAL, Laura L. Cochrane (Central Michigan University)

2:40pm - 3:20pm: WEAVING CARPETS, ATTENDING *SOHBET*: NEIGHBORLY TIES AND GLOBAL CAPITALISM IN KONYA, TURKEY, Damla Isik (Western Connecticut State University)

3:20pm - 3:40pm: *Coffee Break*

3:40pm - 4:20pm: MADE IN ITALY": PROBLEMATICS OF SELLING TUSCANY-PRODUCED TEXTILES AND CACHÉ TO AN EVOLVING AND INCREASINGLY COST CONSCIOUS, LEGAL-RATIONAL GLOBAL MARKET, Joan Weibel-Orlando (USC)

4:20pm - 5:00pm: ENTANGLING TECHNOLOGIES, RE-COMMUNITIZING WORK: PHILIPPINE PIÑA TEXTILES, GENDER AND ALTERNATIVE ECONOMIES OF PRODUCTION AND DESIGN, B. Lynne Milgram (Ontario College of Art & Design)

5:00pm - 5:20pm: General Discussion

5:30-7:00pm: *Screening of Navajo director Bennie Klain's documentary, WEAVING WORLDS and talk by Kathy M'Closkey: NAVAJO WEAVERS AND WOOLGROWERS: HISTORICIZING ENVIRONMENTAL, GENDERED AND GLOBALIZED INJUSTICE*

7-9pm Dinner Banquet in the Faculty Center, Sequoia Room

Saturday evening's optional banquet will be "Chive poached Chilean Salmon with caviar crouton and champagne cream sauce". The cost for the dinner is \$45 per person and includes beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages and gratuity. Reservations are needed in advance, so be sure to sign up when preregistering.

SEA FILM PRESENTATION

WEAVING WORLDS: NAVAJO TALES OF HOW THE WEST WAS SPUN (Trickster Films 2008) documentary dealing with the sustainability of Navajo rug production and trade in the context of the global market economy. It visualizes the cultural importance of livestock and weaving traditions for Navajos, and looks at how contemporary events—economic, environmental, and political—resonate in the past. With the breakdown of the trading post system and increased globalization, weavers have faced marginalization, cultural appropriation and increased competition in the global market. For centuries weaving provided a livelihood and means to perpetuate Navajo culture, with the concept of *k'e* (clanship, environment, reciprocity) at its roots. Thus Navajo weaving is about relationships – to family, clan and the non-human world, and the process of weaving expresses a form of spirituality: *Nahadzààn Hadilneeh*, or "reweaving the world." However, environmental concerns brought about by mines, water issues, and sustainable livestock production remain of utmost concern for the viability of weaving as a vital cultural and socioeconomic activity. The dual threats of escalation in sales of historic textiles and knock-offs has created serious problems contributing to the potential for cultural fragmentation as weavers are no longer able to provide for their families in this culturally appropriate way.

Weaving Worlds was directed by Navajo film maker Bennie Klain of Trickster Films (Austin), who co-produced "The Return of Navajo Boy," a 2000 Sundance Film Festival Selection. *Weaving Worlds* won the second "Rigoberta Menchu Film Award" at Montreal's First Peoples' Film Festival in 2007, and it received a special Award of Commendation at the AAA meetings in November 2008. Sub-titled in English, the documentary was filmed through Navajo eyes, as Bennie was raised in the Tuba City area of the reservation, by his female relatives who vigorously maintained the year-round lifestyle of raising sheep and shearing to wash, card, spin, and dye the wool for their rugs. Screening the documentary at the SEA conference intersects with the SEA theme "Textiles Across Time and Space."