



THE TEXTILE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 6, 2004
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Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Grant to Fund Online Catalogue of The Textile Museum's Arthur D. Jenkins Library

February 6, 2004, Washington, DC — The Textile Museum recently received a \$171,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (Libraries and Scholarly Communications Program) to create a searchable online catalogue of the Museum's 20,000-volume Arthur D. Jenkins Library. The online catalogue will provide researchers and the general public with full access to the Library's unparalleled collection of materials related to the textile arts. The catalogue will also become part of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), a worldwide library cooperative. The catalogue is scheduled to be online in April 2005.

With nearly 20,000 volumes that are unrivaled in their scope and rarity, and many that are one-of-a-kind or out-of-print, The Textile Museum's Arthur D. Jenkins Library is the leading center for textile studies on the East Coast. The holdings of the Arthur D. Jenkins Library consist of books, serials, scholarly dissertations, pamphlets and auction catalogues, slides, and videocassettes relating to the textile arts. The volumes detail the history of rugs, textiles, and costume, and include manuals with information about the many techniques for creating, coloring and embellishing textiles and clothing.

The Library also maintains a collection of cultural history literature, comprised of anthropology, archaeology, history, religion, and travelogues that parallel the Museum's collections in the Middle East, Asia, Africa and the indigenous weaving of the Americas. In addition, the Library has considerable literature in the field of textile conservation, contemporary fiber art and, to a lesser extent, European textiles. The Library also indexes journal articles on

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textiles, rugs, and costumes and co-publishes with the Textile Society of America (TSA) an annual bibliography of textile-related books and journal articles. This bibliography is distributed to TSA members and by The Textile Museum to over 400 museums and cultural institutions worldwide.

Although the Library is non-circulating, scholars, students of the textile arts, designers, artists, and collectors often travel across the country and from around the world to make use of the collection. The Museum's librarian and curators also respond to research inquiries from the public at no charge. The Arthur D. Jenkins catalogue project will make these resources more readily available to audiences worldwide.

Media inquiries: please contact Rachel Bucci, Director of Marketing & Communications, at (202) 667-0441, ext. 42 or by email at rbucci@textilemuseum.org.

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Founded in 1925 by George Hewitt Myers, The Textile Museum is an international center for the exhibition, study, collection and preservation of the textile arts. The Museum explores the role that textiles play in the daily and ceremonial life of individuals the world over. Special attention is given to textiles of the Near East, Asia, Africa and the indigenous cultures of the Americas. The Museum also presents exhibitions of historical and contemporary quilts, and fiber art. With a collection of more than 17,000 textiles and rugs and an unparalleled library, The Textile Museum is a unique and valuable resource for people locally, nationally and internationally.

The Textile Museum is located at 2320 'S' Street, NW in Washington, DC. - Monday - Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday 1 pm to 5 pm. Admission is free; suggested donation is \$5.00. The Museum's Arthur D. Jenkins Library is open 10 am to 2 pm Wednesday through Friday, and 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday. The Museum is closed on Federal holidays and December 24. For further information, call 202-667-0441.