



THE TEXTILE MUSEUM

Rachel Bucci
Director of Marketing and Communications
202-667-0441, ext. 42

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 26, 2005

Contact: Cyndi Spain, Public Information Assistant, 202-667-0441, ext. 17

The Textile Museum Launches “TextileMuse,” an Online Library Catalogue

August 26, 2005, Washington, DC — In early 2004 The Textile Museum received grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (Libraries and Scholarly Communications Program) and the Charles H. Stout Foundation to create a searchable online catalogue of the Museum’s Arthur D. Jenkins Library. **TextileMuse**, the resulting catalogue, is now online and accessible via the Museum’s Web site (www.textilemuseum.org). The online catalogue is also part of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), a worldwide library cooperative. TextileMuse provides researchers and the general public with a full catalogue of the Library’s unparalleled collection of materials related to the textile arts.

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 library include 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 textiles, rugs

--more--

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 by TSA to its members and by the Arthur D. Jenkins Library to over 400 museums and cultural institutions worldwide.

Because 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 also responds to research inquiries from the public at no charge. TextileMuse makes these resources more readily available to audiences worldwide. To search the online catalogue, visit www.textilemuseum.org/textilemuse.html.

###

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. The Museum is open Monday - Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Admission is free; suggested donation is \$5.00. For further information, call 202-667-0441.

For more information or images, please contact Cyndi Spain at 202-667-0441, ext. 17, or by email at cspain@textilemuseum.org or visit www.textilemuseum.org/about/pressroom.htm .
--