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Introduction, contents, covers


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PreColumbian Textile Conference VII

Jornadas de Textiles

PreColombinos VII



Centre for Textile Research
University of Copenhagen 2016

Lena Bjerregaard and Ann Peters, editors

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Textile fragment from Cueva de la Candelaria, cortesey of INAH.

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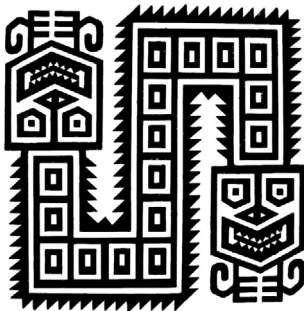
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Title page image, chapter 20, fig. 28: Imagen divina dual, textil Paracas, Lavalle “Tejidos milenarios del Peru”, 1999, pp.166/167, dibujo Uwe Carlson. This page, chapter 20, fig. 15: Rostro felínico, objeto en oro de la colección de Dumbarton Oaks, “Andean Art at Dumbarton Oaks”, 1996, p. 67, dibujo Uwe Carlson.

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Introduction

From May 31st to June 4th, 2016, the 7th International European conference on pre-Columbian textiles was held in Copenhagen. The conference was sponsored by Queen Margrethe and Prince Henriks Foundation, by Carlsbergfondet and FKK in the Ministry of Research and Education in Denmark. It was hosted by the Centre for Textile Research, Saxo Institute, University of Copenhagen and organized by Lena Bjerregaard, assistant researcher at CTR.

The European conference on pre-Columbian textiles was founded in 1999 by Dr. Victòria Solanilla, who organized the first five international meetings with support from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and Institut Català de Cooperació Iberoamericana, as well as the Museu Textil de Terrassa. Five volumes of papers from these conferences (*Actas de las Jornadas Internacionales de Textiles Precolombinos I – V*) have been published by the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Departament d'Art, from 2000 to 2011.

The 6th conference, VI Colloque International sur les Textiles Amérindiens (2013), was organized by Sophie Desrosiers (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales) and Paz Nuñez (Musée du Quai Branly) and held at the Musée du Quai Branly in Paris. Papers from this conference were published online in the journal *Nuevo Mundo / Mundos Nuevos* in two sections: Textiles amerindiens. Investigaciones recientes: del presente al pasado y viceversa / Amerindian Textiles. Recent Studies : from Present to Past and Conversely; Amerindian Textiles. Crossed Perspectives on Colors / Textiles amerindiens. Diferentes perspectivas sobre los colores. The essays can be read online at: <https://nuevomundo.revues.org/68800>.

The location of each European conference on pre-Columbian textiles depends on the initiative of both individual organizers and hosting institutions. The 7th meeting was held in Copenhagen, hosted by the Center for Textile Research. From the 34 papers presented at the Copenhagen conference between May 31st and June 3rd, 2016, a selection were further developed by their authors and constitute the 24 articles presented in this volume.

While the Jornadas have always included papers on textile practices from throughout the Americas, the Pre-Columbian Textile Conference VII for the first time has invited scholars representing national and international projects to talk about archaeological textile finds in Mexico. Ancient textile finds are relatively unusual in Mexico due to diverse climatic conditions not ideal for their preservation, but cave finds recovered throughout the 20th century have been preserved in regional museums and more recently conserved in the national conservation laboratory. This volume unites seven original articles on pre-Columbian textiles from Mexico, which compare information on 20th century finds first described by Alba Guadalupe Mastache with that from previously unpublished finds and recently discovered contexts.

A unique chapter presents the technical analysis and replication of a pre-Columbian tunic recovered in a cave site in Arizona, at the northern margins of the Mesoamerican interaction sphere.

Thirteen articles on archaeological textiles from the central Andes include analysis of both textile assemblages preserved in museum collections and those recovered during recent fieldwork in archaeological sites of the Andean desert coast. These include textile assemblages representing the Initial and Formative Periods, Paracas and Nasca contexts, the Middle Horizon, diverse late Intermediate Period assemblages and emblematic Inca garments.

It has been an exciting and very interesting process to edit these articles, and the editors thank all the authors for their fine, pleasurable and inspiring collaborations.

April 1, 2017

Lena Bjerregaard and Ann Peters

