# In this issue

Issue 220 Summer 2024



120

# Compass

#### 15 Editorial

Most of the editor's hopes for the Istanbul ICOC were fulfilled—and he finds plenty to be optimistic about in the world of antique carpets

#### 27 Dialogue

Damascus tile sells above estimate at Olympia Auctions; Joseph V. McMullan Award winners 2024; Textile Society of America's 2024 Colloquium; a new dual-language Georgian tapestry catalogue and exhibition in Tbilisi; Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum's permanent home turns ten; Konya Ethnographic Museum reopens; HALI's first tour in Turkey; New carpet museum in Kerman

#### 30 Diary

HALI's recommendations for the quarter

#### 33 Calendar

The listings page for carpet- and textilerelated auctions, exhibitions and events

# 34 Thread of time A tale of two kilims

#### 36 Travellers' tales

Roger Pratt

For the author, a HALI Tour to Spain and Portugal completed a long-term quest to trace the struggle for religious power in Iberia

#### 42 Profile

Lucy Upward

A soon-to-be-published book encapsulates the philosophy of collectors Daniel and Dara Brewster

#### 46 Anatomy of an object

An exceptional early 19th-century ikat poncho, with irregularly patterned watay stripes, currently on show at The Textile Museum in Washington, DC

#### 48 Common thread

A selection of textiles that tell tales of long summer days—and the leisurely pursuits and pleasureable pastimes with which historical figures might have filled them

## **Features**

# 52

# Secrets of successful dating

Felix Elwer

How old is a Tibetan rug? The question has perplexed researchers for a long time

#### 62 Strength to strength

Lucien de Guise

The Islamic Arts Museum in Malaysia celebrates a major anniversary

# 70 Uncovering connections

Lee Talbot

A privileged insight into the archives of the late Dr Gittinger, whose work is being highlighted at The Textile Museum, Washington, DC

#### 76 Milestones on a journey

Aaron Neiad

Oxford gallery owner Christopher Legge has been prominent in the British rug trade for fifty years

# 84 Motivic evolution

Barbara Steinberg

The themes and variations within the motifs found on the ritual cloths of the Iban Dayak people



# 86 The shimmer of silk

Philip K. Hu The history of silk in Japan at SLAM

#### 92 The earliest-known Indonesian batik?

Aditya Bayu Perdana, Sandra Sardjono and Christopher Buckley A fragment of a Southeast Asian textile exhibits many unusual features

#### 98 Scandinavian scarcity

Wendel Swan

A distinctive exhibition now running in Philadelphia of early Swedish folk textiles

#### 106 A Safavid-Qajar mix

Michael Franses

A review of MITA, the new carpet museum in Brescia's current display 'Persia Felix'

#### 116 Practices to deceive

Dominique Wyss

Shining examples of textile trompe l'œils feature in this year's special exhibition at Abegg-Stiftung

# 120

# Back to first principles

Kristal Hale

Hidden treasures from the collection go on show at the Denver Art Museum

# 124 Difficulties and delights

Ben Evans

From the wealth of impressive and desirable carpets seen at the recent Istanbul ICOC, the author focuses on several intriguing examples

# Reviews

# 140

#### **Book reviews**

Risha: History in a Narrow Weave reviewed by Rosemary Crill; Dress: Continuity And Change in Egypt in The 1st Millennium AD edited by Antoine De Moor, Cäcilia Fluck and Petra Linscheid, reviewed by Frances Pritchard

#### 144 Exhibition reviews

'Holbein. Burgkmair. Dürer. Renaissance in The North' at Städel Museum, Frankfurt and Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, reviewed by Christian Erber

# Marketplace

# 134

#### Fairs

The Dealers' Fair at ICOC XV Istanbul

#### 138 Exhibitions

Ben Evans

Istanbul's new Gallery Aydın is a declaration of faith in antique rugs as mainstream art

## 146 Auction report

Stephanie Douglas

Three tapestries from one of the most famous series woven by the Beauvais manufactory

# 148

#### **Auction Price Guide**

International auction results of note

#### 160

#### Last page

A singular return of Parting Shots from ICOC XV in Istanbul in June

