

Threads of Silk and Gold: Ornamental Textiles from Meiji Japan Landscape

Hiroko T. McDermott, Clare Pollard



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The first English language publication on the subject of Meiji ornamental textiles

A pioneering study

Of interest to aficionados and the general public

Beautiful photos showing intricate embroideries and tapestries

This is the first English language publication on the subject of these textiles. A pioneering study of the art of Meiji, it contains unique, previously-unpublished material on the intricate embroideries and tapestries, dyed silks and velvets that were produced in Japan for the foreign market in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Published to accompany an exhibition at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, it contains a detailed catalogue of the collection of the Kiyomizu-Sannenzaka Museum in Kyoto - one of the finest and most representative of this material in existence (c. 40 pieces). Never displayed before, this is the first Meiji textile exhibition ever to be held outside of Japan.

Previous studies of Meiji art have largely ignored textiles, with the focus on Japanese textiles tending towards kimonos and costume. This comprehensive overview of the field gives insight into what were among most important Japanese export wares of the late 19th century, when the 'reopening' of Japan led to a fascination in the West for all things Japanese.

Written for the specialist, the textile enthusiast, those interested in Japanese art and Japonisme, and general audiences, the visual appeal and obvious technical virtuosity of the objects give the book its broad appeal.

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