

Zone of Attraction: Indonesian Textiles from the Permanent Collection,

June 26, 2009-December 6, 2009

The Indonesian archipelago straddles the Indian and Pacific Oceans – a geographic fact that has contributed to creating one of the most complex and varied textile cultures in the world today. Not only is there extensive multiculturalism within the republic's thousands of islands, these islands sit at a crossroads of trade among many other countries as well. *Zone of Attraction* presents a diverse range of Indonesian textile arts that collectively speak to this rich cultural past and present.

Each Indonesian island and region is unique in topography and climate: there are highlands, fertile tropics, inviting ports, and a host of distinctive plants and spices. Religious migration, maritime exploration, and mercantile activity beginning in the 8th century BCE have led Indonesia to become a culture of more than three hundred ethnicities and a wealth of spiritual beliefs. All of these factors have affected the making and use of cloth. Techniques such as batik, embroidery, ikat, supplementary patterning, and gilding, for example, reflect the influx of foreign contacts and assimilation.

Since the Age of Discovery, when centers for trade were established along the northern coasts of Sumatra and Java, Indonesia has been a vital junction in the global marketplace. Its history of transmigration and cultural transformation, aligned with that of the Silk Road across Asia, is suggested in the variety of techniques and aesthetics exhibited here, many deriving from India, Japan, China, the Middle East, and Europe. Sometimes the iconography and range of materials-gold, silk, cotton, shells, and mica among them-reflect indigenous ceremonial or social exchange, while at other times indicate a more recent catalyst for textile production in the region: the tourist market.

CHECKLIST OF THE EXHIBITION

Javanese
Sarong, 1800s
Cotton; stamped (tjap) batik
Bequest of Isaac C. Bates 13.107



RISD MUSEUM

Indonesian
Dowry cloth, late 1800s
Cotton; warp ikat
The Lisle Fund 1998.81



Indonesian; Minangkabau
Shoulder cloth (selendang), used as headdress, 1950
Silk, metal threads; supplementary weft patterning, bobbin lace
Museum Purchase: Gift of Paula and Leonard Granoff and Helen M.
Danforth Acquisition Fund 2003.40.1



Indonesian; Kaur
Woman's jacket, early 1900s
Cotton, cowrie shells; plain weave with embroidery and appliqué
Museum Purchase: Gift of Paula and Leonard Granoff and Helen M.
Danforth Acquisition Fund 2003.40.10



RISD MUSEUM

Indonesian; Minangkabau

Headdress, 1880-1920

Silk, metal threads; weft-faced compound weave, bobbin lace

Museum Purchase: Gift of Paula and Leonard Granoff and Helen M. Danforth Acquisition Fund 2003.40.2



Indonesian

Man's jacket, ca. 1950

Cotton; plain weave, machine embroidery and appliqué

Museum Purchase: Gift of Paula and Leonard Granoff and Helen M. Danforth Acquisition Fund 2003.40.3



Indonesian; Kaur

Woman's jacket, early 1900s

Cotton, cowrie shells; plain weave with embroidery and appliqué

Museum Purchase: Gift of Paula and Leonard Granoff and Helen M. Danforth Acquisition Fund 2003.40.4



RISD MUSEUM

Javanese

Hip wrapper, after 1925

Cotton; plain weave, batik

Gift of Paula and Leonard Granoff and Helen M. Danforth Acquisition
Fund 2003.40.7



Indonesian; Javanese; Indo-Chinese

Sarong, 1930-1950

Cotton; tulis batik

Georgianna Sayles Aldrich Fund 2005.82.2



Indonesian; Sumbanese

Mantle (hinggi), 1900-38

Cotton; warp ikat

Gift of Mrs. Murray S. Danforth 38.201



Sumatran; Toba Batak

Waist cloth, ca. 1825

Silk, metal thread; warp ikat, supplemental weft patterning

Gift of Mrs. Murray S. Danforth 38.204



RISD MUSEUM

Sumatran

Hip wrapper (kain songket), 1800s

Silk, metal-wrapped thread; weft ikat, supplementary gold weft patterning (songket)

Gift of Marshall H. Gould 46.211



Tjoateengen, Indonesian, unknown

Long cloth (kain panjang), early 1900s

Cotton; hand-drawn (tulis) batik

Gift of Mrs. Murray S. Danforth 49.167



Shoulder cloth and shawl (pelangi), 1800s

Silk, metal lace; stitch resist (tritik), tie-and-dye resist (plangi)

Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.322

Indonesian; Balinese

Shoulder cloth (slendang), 1800s

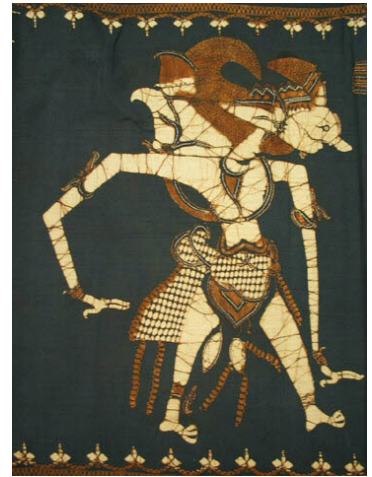
Cotton; double ikat (geringsing)

Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.469



RISD MUSEUM

Javanese
Hanging, 1900-1935
Cotton; hand-drawn (tulis) batik
Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.471



Javanese
Dodot (hip wrapper), 1890-1910
Cotton, indigo; batik
Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.473



Indonesian
Sarong, ca. 1910
Cotton; batik, tiga negeri style
Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.477



Indo-European; Javanese; Indo-Chinese
Sarong fragment, 1910
Cotton plain-weave batik (wax-resist print)
Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.482



RISD MUSEUM

Sumatran

Sarong, 1700s

Silk; weft ikat

Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.548



Sumatran; Malaysian

Man's head cloth or turban cover (ikat kepala), 1800s

Silk, gold thread; natural dyes, weft ikat, supplementary gold weft patterning (songket)

Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.554



Javanese

Long cloth (kain panjang), 1800s

Cotton; block batik (cap)

Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.569



RISD MUSEUM

Javanese
Shoulder cloth (selendang), 1800s
Cotton; batik
Bequest of Miss Lucy T. Aldrich 55.571



Javanese
Long cloth (kain panjang), 1800s
Cotton, natural soda dye; batik
Anonymous gift 56.017



Javanese
Shoulder cloth (slendang) or hip wrapper, early 1900s
Cotton; stamped (tjap) batik
Bequest of Martha B. Lisle 67.456



RISD MUSEUM

Indonesian; Sumbanese
Sarong, early 1900s
Cotton; plain weave, warp ikat
Walter H. Kimball Fund 80.221.1



Javanese
Batik fragment, late 1800s
Cotton; batik
Gift of Margery Burnham Howe 82.070



Balinese
Shoulder cloth (selendang), 1800s
Cotton, natural dyes, indigo, gold leaf (prada), fish bone glue; hand-drawn (tulis) batik, painting
INV2004.224



RISD MUSEUM

Javanese

Breast cloth or offering cloth (kemben, kain kembangan), late 1800s

Cotton; stitch resist (tritik), tie-and-dye resist (plangi)

Museum Collection S85.084

