



Fact Sheet 5/25/22

Dressed by Nature: Textiles of Japan

Target Gallery

June 25 - September 11, 2022

Curator: Andreas Marks

Organized by Minneapolis Institute of Art

Journey through Japan, from near Siberia to the subtropics, and discover textiles made by diverse cultures. "Dressed by Nature" focuses on the resourcefulness of humans to create textiles from local materials, including paper, elm bark, nettle, and fish skin. This exhibition showcases rare and exceptional garments from around 1750 to 1930, including the royal dress of subtropical Okinawa, ceremonial robes of the indigenous Ainu people from northern Japan and the Russian Far East, firefighters uniforms, and folk traditions from across Japan.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Text Version

Lead Sponsor: Thomson Reuters

Major Sponsor: Wells Fargo, Artful Living

Media Partner: Star Tribune

Generous support provided by the Gale Family Endowment

Where space allows (Talks brochure, etc.) or explanation is helpful:

Generous support for this program is provided by the Gale Family Endowment. Named by a generous gift from Alfred P. Gale, the Gale Family Endowment supports Mia's efforts to reach a spectrum of audiences through a variety of programs, events, materials, exhibitions, and publications focused on its renowned collection of Asian Art.

ADMISSION

General

\$20 Admission

FREE Youth 17 and under

Member



\$16 My Mia members

FREE Investor members+ (2 free tickets per day for Investor, 4 for Partner, 6+ for Patron and above. Patrons', Director's, and Chairman's Circle member, through the member cards, are allowed complimentary admission for their group at any time)

FREE child admission for Investor+ members (Do not need to be on household.)

Other ongoing discounts

FREE Active Duty military and families – Blue Star Museums

FREE Qualifying Discount*

*To qualify you must be at least 18 and enrolled in one or more of the following: TANF, MFIP, WIC, General Assistance, Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare, Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Disability Benefits, Food Stamps, Section 8, or Free/Reduced Price School Meals

Ticketing Logistics

- No timed entry.
- Visitors can buy tickets online on Mia's Website or over the phone by calling 612-870-3000.
- Visitors can buy tickets in person at the Visitor Service desks.
- Target Gallery will be staffed starting approximately 20 minutes before the museum opens.

Tours

Enjoy virtual and in-person public tours of the exhibition. In-person public tours offered Thursdays through Sundays. No tours on Member Days. Private tours are available by request. Please see details below under Tours.

Member Days

All members enjoy free "Dressed by Nature" tickets during Member Days.

Sunday, July 10

Friday, July 22

Saturday, August 6

Thursday, August 18



EVENTS DURING OPENING WEEK

Press Preview

Thursday, June 23, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Target Gallery, followed by curator-led tour by Andreas Marks

Patron Preview

Friday, June 24, 2022

6:00pm Exclusive exhibition preview and cocktail reception, Target Galleries and Marvin and Betty Borman Gallery, second floor

7:00pm Remarks and seated dinner, Thomas Walker Barlow, second floor

Talk

Accounting for Taste: On the Collecting of Textiles from Japan

Sunday, June 26, 2pm

\$10; \$8 Mia members

From firefighters' ceremonial robes and rural workwear, to colorful, delicately patterned cotton kimonos, collector Thomas Murray introduces us to the world-class collection of Japanese textiles he assembled over almost 40 years. A researcher, Asian and tribal art dealer, and HALI magazine contributing editor, Murray will explore the range and artistry of Japan's tradition of fiber arts, as well as their original usage.

EXHIBITION PUBLIC DATES, GALLERY AND HOURS

Public Dates

June 24 - September 11, 2022

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Mia is closed on Mondays.

FOOD SERVICE

Agra Culture Restaurant on the Mezzanine level will not be open during the *Dressed by Nature* exhibition.

Agra Culture Café will be open regular museum hours:

Tuesday-Friday 10:00 am – close

Saturday, Sunday 10:00 am – close

MARKETING/COMMUNICATIONS

Goals: To raise awareness for the exhibition; find a unique hook for niche audiences (Japanese art & fashion); encourage repeat attendance with Van Gogh ticket purchasers; meet/exceed attendance goal

Key messages: These textiles — which were made between around 1750 and 1930 — illustrate the resourcefulness of humans to transform local materials into extraordinary garments and highlight the diverse cultures that form the Japanese archipelago.

Materials used in this exhibition include fish skin, paper, elm bark, nettle, banana leaf fiber, hemp, wisteria, deerskin, cotton, silk, and wool.

Audiences will see ceremonial robes of the Ainu from northern Japan and the Russian Far East, royal dress of subtropical Okinawa, and examples of folk traditions from throughout Japan.

At the heart of the exhibition is the acclaimed Thomas Murray collection, which Mia acquired in 2019.

Audiences: Enthusiasts of Japanese art and culture

Enthusiasts of textiles and fiber art

People who are interested in fashion, design, and clothes-making (e.g. costume designers, fashion historians, etc.)

Mia visitors who are already onsite for the Van Gogh exhibition

Attendance goal: 24,000

Opportunities: The textiles presented in this exhibition are rare, exceptional, and truly mind-blowing in their craftsmanship. They shatter the stereotype of Japanese textiles being equated only with kimonos.

This exhibition and the acquisition of these textiles add to our already strong reputation as a leading institution for Asian art.

Thomas Murray is well known in textile and fiber arts circles.

Mia expects Van Gogh to draw high attendance, so there is potential to bring that audience into "Dressed By Nature."



Challenges: The average American is not readily familiar with Japanese geography, history, and climate, so Mia will need to navigate this knowledge gap.

Mia must determine how we want to approach the historical marginalization of the Ainu people.

PATRONS', DIRECTOR'S, AND CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

Patron Preview

Friday, June 24, 2022

6:00pm Exclusive exhibition preview and cocktail reception, Target Galleries and Marvin and Betty Borman Gallery, second floor

7:00pm Remarks and seated dinner, Thomas Walker Barlow, second floor

Private Donor Tours

Complimentary tours of "Dressed by Nature: Textiles of Japan" led by Andreas Marks, PhD, Mary Griggs Burke Curator of Japanese and Korean Art and Director of the Clark Center for Japanese Art

Thursday, June 30, 2-3pm

Friday, July 8, 10:30-11:30am

Thursday, August 18, 2-3pm

Check-in will begin 15 minutes before the tour outside of the Target Galleries

PHOTOGRAPHY: Photography by public visitors to the Exhibition is permitted unless noted, with no flash. Tripods and selfie-sticks cannot be used in the galleries.

PRESS

Press Preview Thursday, June 23, 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Target Gallery, followed by curator-led tour by Andreas Marks

PROGRAMMING

Advance registration for related programs, except Family Day, is required.



Find the latest details on all programs and register at artsmia.org.

Mia adheres to the Covid-19 guidelines endorsed by the CDC, State of Minnesota, and City of Minneapolis. Please refer to artsmia.org for more information.

Talk

Accounting for Taste: On the Collecting of Textiles from Japan

Sunday, June 26, 2pm

\$10; \$8 Mia members

From firefighters' ceremonial robes and rural workwear, to colorful, delicately patterned cotton kimonos, collector Thomas Murray introduces us to the world-class collection of Japanese textiles he assembled over almost 40 years. A researcher, Asian and tribal art dealer, and HALI magazine contributing editor, Murray will explore the range and artistry of Japan's tradition of fiber arts, as well as their original usage.

Panel Talk

The Ainu of Northern Japan: Their Unique Textile Tradition

Thursday, July 21, 6:30pm

\$10; \$8 Mia members

Made in part from fibers harvested from elm bark or nettles, Ainu robes feature elaborate embroidered patterns meant to please the eye and protect the wearer. This panel discussion focuses on the textile culture of the indigenous Ainu people, who traditionally live on Hokkaido (the northernmost of Japan's main islands), the Kuril Islands, and the southern part of Sakhalin (in today's Russia).

Panelists:

- Christina M. Spiker, PhD, visiting assistant professor of art and art history, St. Olaf College
- Walter Bruno Brix, East Asian textiles expert and co-curator of the exhibition "A Soul in Everything: Encounters with Ainu from the North of Japan," recently on view in Cologne, Germany
- Moderator: Andreas Marks, PhD, "Dressed by Nature" curator

Talk

Japanese Textiles: Traditional Dyes and Conservation Methods



Thursday, August 18, 6:30pm
\$10; \$8 Mia members

Textile conservator and researcher Dr. Ishii Mie will describe the various techniques of textile dyeing in Japan. An associate professor of art at Saga University, Japan, Dr. Ishii will introduce methods of textile conservation and recovery using examples from the royal collection stored at Shuri Castle in Okinawa, which was severely damaged by fire in 2019.

PUBLICATION

Dressed by Nature does not have an accompanying catalogue. The Store at Mia is carrying the book *Textiles of Japan*, documenting the Thomas Murray collection, for \$85 (\$76.50 members).

SPONSORSHIP AND SPONSOR EVENTS

Sponsor Weeks:

Corporate Partner Week Promotions (up to 4 free tickets with reservations): July 12-17;
August 9-14

Thomson Reuters, Wells Fargo, and Artful Living employees enjoy complimentary admission the duration of the exhibition

Family Day: Dressed by Nature

Sunday, September 11, 10am-5pm
Free; all are welcome.

Join us for a day of textile fun for the whole family! At this free event, families, young artists, and the young at heart can drop by to explore the techniques and artworks on view in "Dressed by Nature," participate in kid-friendly activities related to the exhibition, and pick up an art kit to experiment with different materials from home.

TOURS

Public Tours

In-Person Tours



Enjoy in-person public tours of the exhibition Thursdays through Sundays at 2 p.m. and Thursday evenings at 7 pm from July 7 - September 1, 2022. No tours on Member Days.

A Stop & Chat station under the second floor staircase to support Dressed by Nature and Van Gogh will be staffed daily by two guides, Tuesdays through Sundays, 1 to 3 p.m., and Thursday evenings, 6 to 8 p.m., from July 7 - September 1, 2022.

Virtual Tours

Virtual tours are free and can be reserved on artsmia.org.
An exhibition ticket is not required.

Virtual tours scheduled at 2 p.m. on:

July 13

July 24

August 10

August 28

Private Tours

Private tours scheduled by request on other days when there is guide availability

Museum Guides Training

Lecture: June 16, 1-3 pm

Walk-through: June 24, 10:30 am - noon

Visitor Experience Training Team:

Monday, June 13, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Reception Hall

No staff tour in galleries



Mia all-staff tour

In person, Tuesday, June 28 and Thursday, June 30, 9-10am, TBC

Private Donor Tours

Complimentary tours of "Dressed by Nature: Textiles of Japan" led by Andreas Marks, PhD, Mary Griggs Burke Curator of Japanese and Korean Art and Director of the Clark Center for Japanese Art

Thursday, June 30, 2-3pm

Mia

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Friday, July 8, 10:30-11:30am

Thursday, August 18, 2-3pm

Check-in will begin 15 minutes before the tour outside of the Target Galleries