

TEXTILE SOCIETY *of* AMERICA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEXTILE SOCIETY OF AMERICA ANNOUNCES 2013 R.L. SHEP WINNER

Berkeley, CA—*Resplendent Dress from Southeastern Europe: a History in Layers*, by Elizabeth Wayland Barber and Barbara Belle Sloan, editors, earned the 2013 R. L. Shep Ethnic Textile Book Award from the Textile Society of America, according to TSA Awards Co-Chair Jill D'Alessandro of the DeYoung Museum in San Francisco and TSA President Roxane Shaughnessy of the Textile Museum of Canada.

The 2013 selection committee consisted of Claire Odland, Ruth Barnes, and Cecilia Anderson.

This lavishly illustrated text, featuring 285 color images, accompanied an exhibition mounted at the Fowler Museum at the University of California in Los Angeles. The authors demonstrate the evolution of embellishment and culture as expressed through dress: "by 1900, a southeastern European village woman's apparel consisted of millennia of layered history. With a glance at her, the onlooker could read not only her marital status but also her religion, wealth, textile skills, and more." <http://fowler.ucla.edu/publications/resplendent-dress-southeastern-europe-history-layers>

The book unfolds from Europe's Paleolithic past to post-war (post-Yugoslavian) Balkan society. With this broad sweep the different facets connect to tell a compelling story. The final chapter is an account of how these garments were collected and later studied at the Fowler museum at UCLA.

The Textile Society of America is pleased to solicit nominations for the R. L. Shep Ethnic Textile Book Award for books published in 2014. This year, nominations will be submitted through the TSA webpage at <http://textilesocietyofamerica.org/nominate-a-book/>. For more information, contact committee chair, Pat Hickman at phickman@hawaii.edu. Previous winners of this prestigious award are listed, along with their publication titles as well as details about the award at: <http://textilesocietyofamerica.org/shep/>.

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The Textile Society of America (TSA) is a membership-driven organization that provides an international forum for the exchange and dissemination of textile knowledge from artistic, cultural, economic, historic, political, social, and technical perspectives. Established in 1987 as a 501c(3), TSA is governed by a Board of Directors from museums and universities in North America and around the world. Its 800 members worldwide include museum curators, conservators, scholars, artists, craftspeople, educators, students, dealers, collectors and textile enthusiasts.

Wendy Weiss
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