



# Scientific Report

## Highlights 2024

### Introduction

The Centre for Textile Research (CTR) was established in 2005, founded by the Danish National Research Foundation and is today a research centre at the Saxo Institute, University of Copenhagen.

Since its inception, the CTR has had a strong focus on textile history and archaeology based on substantial research programs, as well as research training of young scholars and a variety of activities connected with textile history involving universities, museums and design schools. The CTR organizes seminars, conferences and courses in textile history on all academic levels.

The scientific missions of the CTR are to:

- Promote, expand and consolidate textile research in the academic world;
- Establish a visible and explicit research profile with national and international references, setting new standards for future textile research;
- Explore and consolidate international textile knowledge;
- Achieve new results by conducting scientific programs in new research fields, and by inspiring all scientists to include the area of textiles in their research.

### CTR Management

Throughout 2024, the head of Centre for Textile Research has been Professor Eva Andersson Strand, who took said position in 2017, taking over from Professor Marie-Louise Nosch. Starting from 1st of January 2025, the leadership of the Centre for Textile Research will be forwarded to Associate Professor Elsa Yvanez.

CTR team meetings were held every second Wednesday throughout the year, including internal and external scientific lectures and presentations by team members and guest researchers.

# Highlights

## The Silk Ribbons project starts!

Starting 2024, a project concerning silk ribbons at Museum Amager has begun. The project is called "Silk Ribbons in Museum Amager—A Window into Europe" and is a research project in collaboration with the local museum, Museum Amager. Its central aim is to create a new understanding of one of Denmark's largest collection of regional dress and thereby shed light on a predominantly unknown history of Danish production and consumption of silk ribbons.

The project will register and examine the collection of Museum Amager, which amounts to over 400 silk ribbons, and tell us of a bigger history of rising globalisation and technological advances in the European textile industry.

The project is co-funded by Dronning Margrethes og Prins Henriks Fond, Manufakturhandlerforeningen i Københavns Almene Fond and Aage og Johanne Louis-Hansens Fond. It is co-directed by Pls Elsa Yvanez and Susanne Lervad.

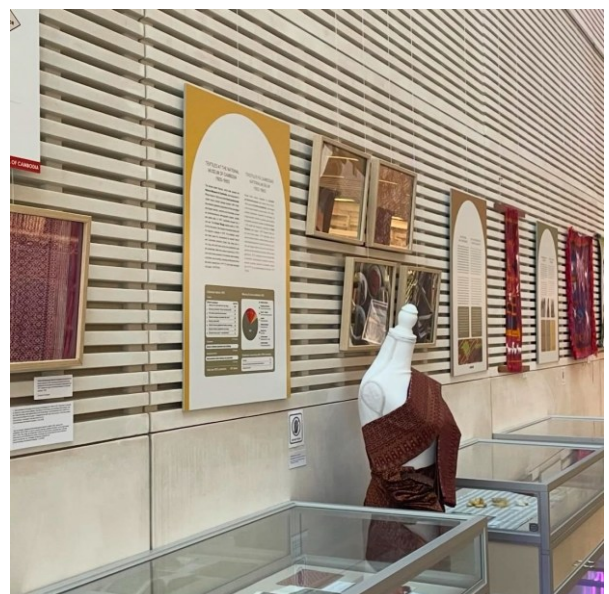


Silk Ribbons from Museum Amager

## Exhibition: The Art of Ikat

From 22nd February to 31st of May, there was an exhibition on Cambodian Ikat weaving technique, at the University Library on Southern Campus. The Exhibition was organised by Magali An Berthon and Morten Grymer-Hansen. The exhibition outline was as follows:

"Enter the woven world of Cambodian silk ikat, hol in Khmer, a resist-dye weaving technique and century-old textile craft. While sericulture and weaving have been activities grounded in villagers' lives in the countryside, royal workshops also produced refined silk textiles to supply the Cambodian royal court. The National Museum, established in 1920 in Phnom Penh during the French protectorate, collected numerous examples of these textiles. After the civil war in 1970 and the destructive Khmer Rouge regime between 1975 and 1979, more than 3/4th of its textile collection was missing, most likely due to looting. The exhibition The Art of Ikat: A Cambodian Renaissance investigates this rich heritage and history in terms of cultural, technical, and visual significance, also considering its survival, vitality, an resilience in contemporary times."

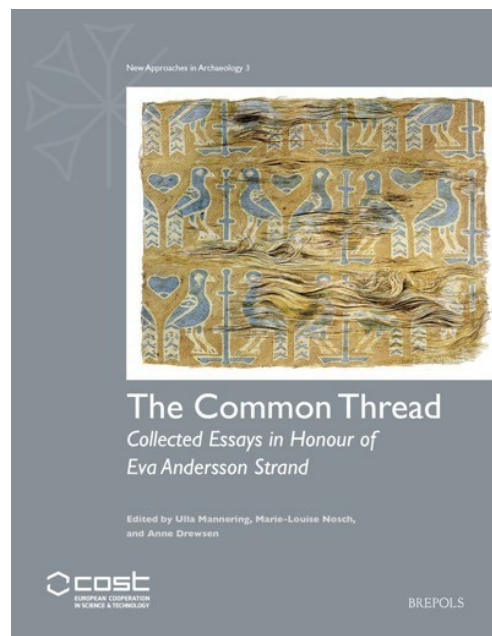


Part of the exhibition at the University Library, Southern Campus.

## Festschrift for Eva Andersson Strand

In September 2024, our Head of Center, Professor Eva Andersson Strand, was surprised by a festschrift and celebration of her 8 year anniversary as head of CTR. The festschrift was secretly arranged by the editors Marie-Louise Nosch, Ulla Mannering and Anne Drewsen, which contained multiple peer-reviewed articles by her current and former colleagues and collaborators.

The edited volume is titled "The Common Thread: Collected Essays in Honour of Eva Andersson Strand". The book is available via [Open Access](#).



The cover of the Festschrift in honour of our head of centre

## The TRiVAL-Project: Flax Seminar

On November 8th, the Textile Resources in Viking-Age Landscapes project and Centre for Textile Re-search held a seminar about flax production, consumption and use throughout time. The one-day seminar, held in Danish, was titled "Hørproduktion Gennem Tiden" (Flax Production Through Time), and was very well attended by scholars, students, artists and more.

The seminar was held in collaboration with Koppedal Museum, and hosted papers by both external researchers and CTR scholars.

The poster features a background image of hands holding a bundle of flax. The main title 'HØRPRODUKTION GENNEM TIDEN' is in large white letters. Below it, a circular graphic contains the text 'Afholdes på Københavns Universitet Amager'. To the right, the word 'Seminar' is written in a large font, followed by a list of topics: 'Forhistorisk hør', 'Historisk hør', 'Fra frø til plante', 'aDNA', 'Hamp', and 'Lokaliteter, anlæg'. A large white circle contains the date and time: 'Dato 8. Nov. 2024 9:00-17:30'. At the bottom right, it says 'Tilmelding senest 28. oktober 2024' and 'Skriv til bjr348@hum.ku.dk'. Logos for 'Trival Textile Resources in Viking Age Landscapes' and 'KROPPEDAL MUSEUM' are at the bottom.

Poster for the Flax Seminar. © Camilla Fraas Rasmussen

## Research

CTR as an institution as well as the individual researchers collaborate with a large number of universities and other external institutions.

During 2024, the CTR team organised 29 workshops, meetings and conferences, and gave 31 presentations primarily in international contexts. The CTR scholars participated in 19 different research projects during 2024, collaborative or individual, national and international, such as the Lives of a Mummy project and the ERC project Fashioning Sudan.

In 2024, the MSC-projects TEX-KR and TRANS-PLANT was finished, as well as The Danish Loom from 17th to 20th Century and The Art of Ikat. In addition, we have welcomed a new MSC-postdoc, Azadeh Pashootanizadeh, and her project titled "DocZow: Documentation of intergenerational transmission in Zoroastrian women's silk weaving".

We currently have the following projects running: Lives of a Mummy; Time and Textiles; Powerdressing; Silk Ribbons in Museum Amager; Fashioning Sudan; Textiles in Middle Kingdom Egypt; DocZow.

In 2024, the following projects started: Silk Ribbons in Museum Amager, DocZow: Documentation of Intergenerational Transmission in Zoroastrian Women's Silk Weaving, Powerdressing, Times of Textiles and the Lives of a Mummy project.

## Team and guests

The CTR consisted of 21 people in 2024, including interns and student helpers.

## Profiling

During 2023, CTR has further focused on profiling CTR on social media:

The number of CTR's Facebook followers is now over ??? and the Instagram account is followed by more than 2,500. The followers are a mix of students from UCPH, scientific researchers, and craftspeople from around the world.

CTR is also profiled internally on Saxo-news, info screens etc.