Annual report for the project Margrethe Hald: the Life and Work of a Textile Pioneer. New insights and perspectives

During the year, the Margrethe Hald research group have fulfilled a number of the goals for the project. We are very happy to share our results for 2021 with everyone interested in Hald’s research and the project.

We have had lots of help from student assistants and interns Pernille Højfeld Nielsen, Line Maria Mørch, Mathilde Sonne and Anine Aakjær Lundgaard Jensen who have shared our news on SoMe, the CTR homepage and the Traditional Textile Craft homepage.

1) Highlights of 2021:

The Margrethe Hald database and the photo archive are now accessible to everyone interested. Thanks to our competent student assistant Anine Aakjær Lundgaard Jensen who created the database, it is now possible to study Hald’s slides from her stays in the Middle East in 1960 and 1961 as well as her five-months journey in Latin America in 1966-67. A number of slides presenting Hald's exhibition "Oldtidsvæve" at the National Museum, Copenhagen in 1967 are included in the database.

Furthermore, the project received generous funding from both Aage og Johanne Louis-Hansens Fond and from Beckett Fonden during the year. Thanks to these two foundations, the project will continue until February 28th 2022.

Finally, the project group has now found solid evidence of Hald’s involvement in the Danish resistance fight during WW2 – more will follow on this subject in 2022!

2) Papers presented at national and international conferences:

June 2nd
Event: NORDTERM 2021
Venue: online
Lecturer: Susanne Lervad and Morten Grymer-Hansen
Title: Conceptual work and information management of textile technical terminology by Margrethe Hald et al.

June 16th:
Event: Old Textiles – More Possibilities
Venue: CTR/online
Lecturer: Ulrikka Mokdad and Morten Grymer-Hansen
Title: The Margrethe Hald Archives

September 9th
Venue: Manchester University/online
Lecturer: Morten Grymer-Hansen and Ulrikka Mokdad
Title: The Margrethe Hald Archive
3) Published articles:


4) Internal and external presentations of Hald’s research and/or the project:

October 13th: InterGen network meeting at the UCPH. Presentation of research project on Margrethe Hald by Ulrikka Mokdad and Morten Grymer-Hansen

October 16th: Open lecture at Immigrantmuseet. Presentation of Hald’s research into braided bands and cords including hands on approach by Ulrikka Mokdad

5) Activities planned for 2022:

We are currently working on a Podcast on Margrethe Hald’s life and research. The podcast named “De bånd, der binder” will be launched in early 2022.

An exhibition on Hald’s archive and her journeys will take place at the Campus Library from 10th of February (Hald’s 125th birthday) until 1st of May.

A seminar entitled “Margrethe Hald and the Nordic History of Textile Research” is planned and will be hosted by UCPH on the 22nd of April.