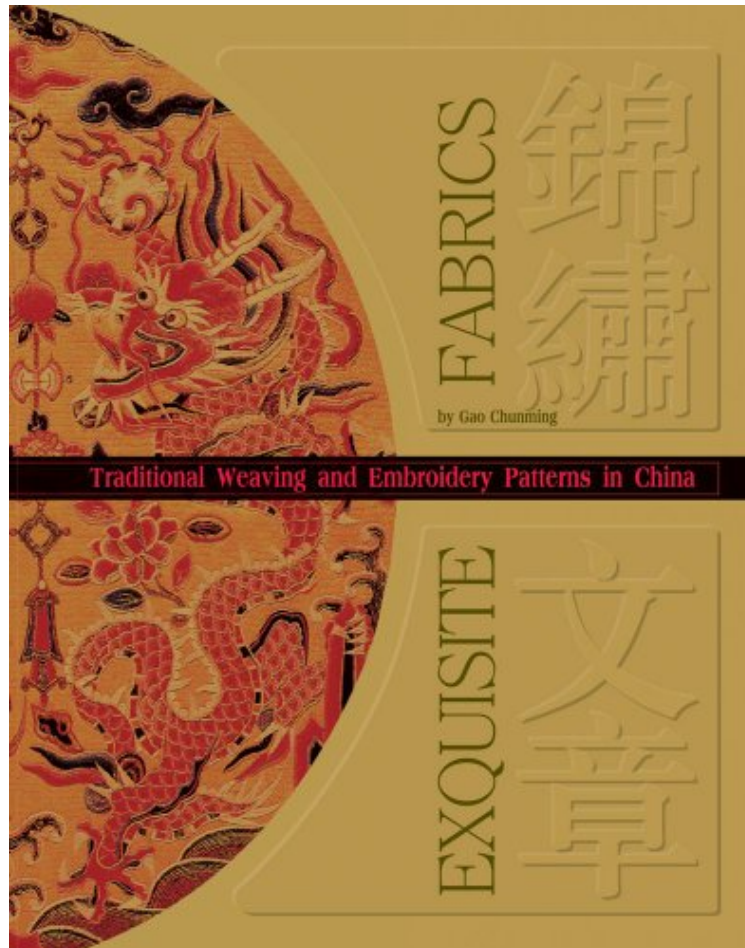


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Exquisite Fabrics: Traditional Weaving and Embroidery Patterns in China

Gao Chunming

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Gao Chunming : Exquisite Fabrics: Traditional Weaving and Embroidery Patterns in China before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Exquisite Fabrics: Traditional Weaving and Embroidery Patterns in China:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Exquisite does not begin to describe this book!By Jane KwiecinskiThe value of this book far exceeds its price. I highly recommend it to anyone who has a love of Chinese textilesPhysically: This is a fabulous coffee table book. The book is oversized and comes with its own slipcase. The cover is wrapped in silk and the Chinese characters are raised. The borders of each page wrap around to create color images on all sides of the closed book. Most of the photography is excellent; often you can pick out individual stitches - an important consideration if you wish to study the techniques as well as the embroidery designs. Many of the examples of tapestry and embroidery pieces are not found in other books.Content: Well organized with multiple

examples of each motif, its meaning(s), and how it was used. For example, the phoenix takes up 32 pages with 65 photos; the author shows the ways males and females (luan feng) are arranged to express "pleasant meeting" or "harmonious marriage". A phoenix in a field of flowers symbolizes peace, luck, wealth, and prosperity. What I most appreciated was the explanation of the less common motifs like the myna bird, daffodil, and spider as well as the allegorical and geometric patterns. Some minor negatives: Only 22 pages are given over to describing the history and creation of these textiles. Also, I would like to see pieces identified by more than just the Dynasty during which they were created. It would be beneficial to know the year or reign and the "school" of embroidery in order to trace how a motif developed. And I'd love to know the collection where the actual textiles are held. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Good Book On The Subject By Kevin Yee Very much enjoying the great variety of pieces that are illustrated - many of which I have not seen before. Nice and clear close-ups. A great addition to your library. (I'm not quite sure how I feel about the "edge painting" though...) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By New York Lady Simply exquisite!

This massive collector's book is the largest collection of Chinese weaving and embroidery patterns available. For more than twenty-five hundred years the patterns of Chinese silk textiles captured the imaginations of their beholders. The woven and embroidered designs catalogued in *Exquisite Fabrics*, a survey by Gao Chunming, combine consummate mechanical and technical skill with an aesthetic vision driven by the need to communicate the most important message of Chinese culture. This Chinese art book is a compilation of over one thousand Chinese traditional designs found in weaving and embroidery. Known as zhiwen or wen in ancient China, these traditional patterns are the products of brilliant artistic skills that have been passed down from one generation to the next. Available in a gorgeous slipcase, this book presents a wide and comprehensive range of classical design motifs that include: dragons phoenix birds auspicious animals floral patterns insects and fish figures religious allegorical

About the Author Gao Chunming is Director of Shanghai Art Research Institute, Research Fellow and Chief Editor of the magazine *Shanghai Artists*.