The study of textiles and culture has become one of the most dynamic fields of scholarship, reflecting new global, material and technological possibilities. This is the first handbook of specially commissioned essays to provide a guide to the major strands of critical work around textiles past and present and to draw upon the work of artists and designers as well as leading international scholars in textiles studies.

The Handbook offers an authoritative and wide-ranging guide to the topics, issues, and questions that are central to the study of textiles today: it examines how material practices reflect cross-cultural influences; it explores textiles' relationships to history, memory, place, and social and technological change; and considers their influence on fashion and design, sustainable production, craft, architecture, curation and contemporary textile art practice. Each section includes a diverse mix of case studies and the book concludes with a series of interviews with textile artists, designers, curators and scholars including Annet Couwenberg, Diana Guerrero-Macia, Valerie Kirk, Kay Lawrence, Judith Leeman, Sara Lindsay, Joan Livingstone, Rowland Ricketts, Jenni Sorkin, Lisa Vinebaum, Fo Wilson and Anne Wilson.

Offering a state-of-the-art overview of the field of textile studies, the Handbook is an invaluable resource for students and scholars of textiles and related subjects such as dress, costume and fashion, feminism and gender, art and design, and cultural history.

### **EDITORS:**

Janis Jefferies is Professor of Visual Arts and Research Fellow at the Constance Howard Resource and Research Centre in Textiles at Goldsmiths, University of London, UK.

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'With a myriad of approaches, theories and stories, this exquisitely curated treasure-trove of essays, articles and interviews is the definitive resource for scholars and creative researchers. This anthology is a goldmine for postdocs, and university researchers at all levels. Affirming the cultural value of textiles, the collection offers a unique journey into the hearts and minds of those who make, study, and engage in the complexity and beauty of textile experience.'

## Barbara Layne

Director, Studio subTela and Professor, Concordia University, Montreal, Canada

'Textile-based practices are currently on the cutting edge of aesthetic practice and critical inquiry. This constellation of textile thinking and making is excellently captured in *The Handbook* of Textile Culture. Edited and written by leading theorists, historians, and practitioners in the field, this far-ranging and deep-reaching anthology covers the intersections between and across feminisms, queer and trans theories, and postcolonial discourses. Offering a remarkably diverse collection of global perspectives, this volume will surely be a leading resource for students, scholars, and professionals for years to come.'

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Professor, Textiles Program, California College of the Arts, USA

'What a colossal achievement. This is not just the most comprehensive survey of the global production of textiles, and the widest conceptual reframing of the role of textiles in contemporary art and design, it is also a mosaic of sparkling intelligence. This handbook will serve as an essential guide and remain as a vital resource for many years to come. It will be the new encyclopedia textilica!'

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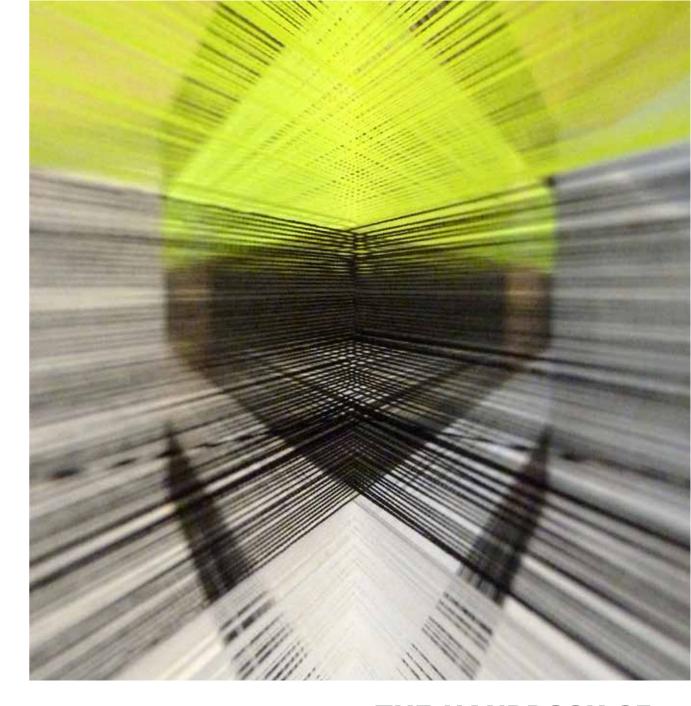
Cover image: Anne Wilson, To Cross (Walking New York), 2014. Site-specific performance and sculpture at The Drawing Center, NYC. Thread cross research. Photo @ Christie Carlson/Anne Wilson Studio



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# THE HANDBOOK OF **TEXTILE CULTURE**

**EDITED BY JANIS JEFFERIES.** DIANA WOOD CONROY AND HAZEL CLARK



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HANDBOOK

**TEXTILE CULTURE**