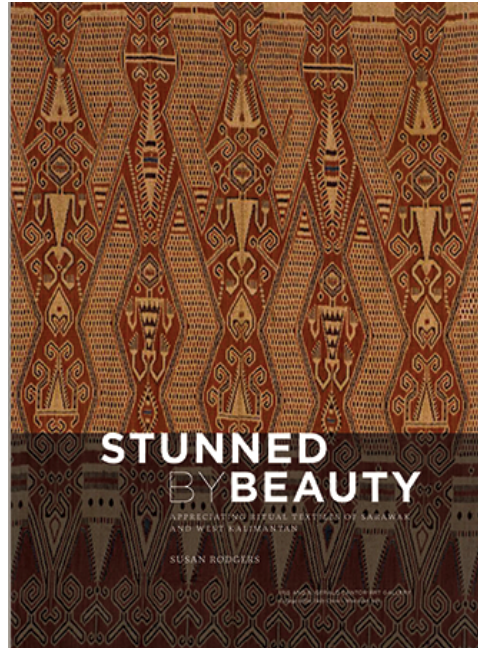
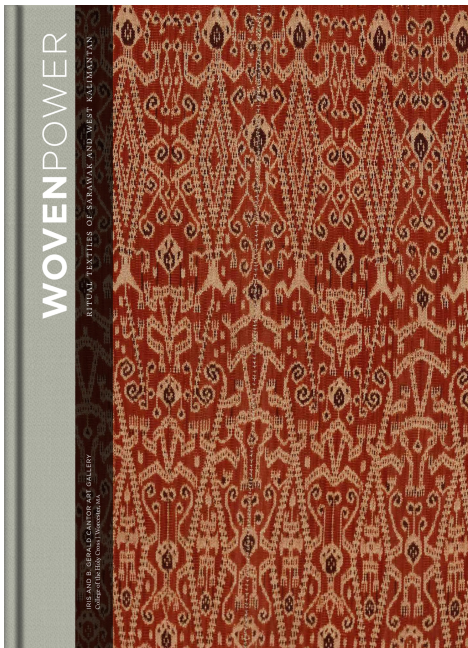




COLLEGE OF THE
Holy Cross

Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery



Woven Power: Ritual Textiles of Sarawak and West Kalimantan

By John G. Kreifeldt Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Engineering, Tufts University
Hardcover, 160 pages, 72 color photographs
ISBN: 978-0-9616183-6-0
\$60

Stunned by Beauty

By Susan Rodgers Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Anthropology, Holy Cross
Softcover, 96 pages, 58 color photographs
ISBN: 978-0-9616193-9-1
\$40

Purchased as a set: \$80

Published by the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery, College of the Holy Cross in conjunction with the exhibition *Woven Power: Ritual Textiles of Sarawak and West Kalimantan*, August 31 – December 14, 2016.

This linked pair of books explores the ritual importance of *pua kumbu* and *kain kebat* textiles designed and woven in the 19th and 20th centuries by Iban and Dayak skilled women in longhouse communities in what is now Malaysian Sarawak state and the Indonesian province of West Kalimantan. These women dyers and weavers operated at the highest levels of Southeast Asian artistic accomplishment and creativity. The two contrastive but complementary volumes explore these cloth worlds in depth through a variety of interpretive lenses; the books are intended to be read as a contrapuntal, dialogic pair of studies. Kreifeldt's comprehensive collection of ceremonial textiles from these regions formed the basis of the exhibition, guest curated by Rodgers. Both are fully illustrated with color photographs by Frank E. Graham.

In *Woven Power*, Kreifeldt places his commentaries on each cloth within the extensive, sometimes argumentative published scholarship on Iban and Ibanic weaving. He argues that the ceremonial skirts of Sarawak and West Kalimantan are astounding works of art and deserve more scholarly attention than they have previously received. Rodgers' anthropological study, *Stunned by Beauty*, takes an ethnographic and historical approach to interpreting these ritual cloths and the remarkable women artisans who created them, asserting that the cloths should be seen vis-a-vis global textile economies.

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Founded in 1983 through the generosity of Iris & B. Gerald Cantor, the Cantor Art Gallery serves both as a venue for a changing series of historical and contemporary public exhibitions, as well as a resource for Holy Cross faculty and students, linking exhibitions to the broader liberal arts curriculum. The College of the Holy Cross, established in 1843, is located in Worcester, Massachusetts, and is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions, renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Holy Cross graduates distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

Meredith Fluke, Director | Iris and. B. Gerald Cantor Art Gallery, College of the Holy Cross | 1 College Street | Worcester, MA 01610