

Areas of Specialization

Chinese Trade Textiles, Silk Road Textiles and Material Culture, Textile Analysis.

SGSAH AHRC DTP PhD candidate, History of Art, University of Glasgow, Scotland (October 2021).

“Chinese painted silks: Craftmanship and Fashion in Eighteenth Century Britain”

My dissertation focuses on Chinese painted silks of the type exported to the West for clothing and furnishing in the eighteenth century and traces their development, global impact, and appeal through case studies. Made by Chinese craftsmen ostensibly for European and American markets, Chinese painted trade silks reflect multiple cultural traditions and provide insights into the mechanisms of global cultural exchange in the early modern period. The research will explore and highlight the role of Chinese material culture within histories of Western fashionable dress and furnishings, challenging the Eurocentric view of this trade.

Education

- 1998 – 1999: Master of Arts in History of Art (History of Dress), Courtauld Institute of Art.
- 1996 – 1998: BA–equivalent in North European Archaeology, University of Stockholm.
- 1991 – 1993: BTEC HND Theatre Design, London College of Fashion.

Select Scholarship and Grants

- SGSAAH AHRC DTP Doctoral Award, 2022-2025
- Estrid Ericsons Stiftelse Award, 2021
- Attingham Trust Scholarship, 2017

Membership of Professional Bodies

- Board member The Agnes Geijer Foundation for Nordic Textile Research
- Board member of International Association for the Study of Silk Road Textiles (IASSRT)
- Elected Member, The Costume Society, UK
- Individual Member of Centre International d'Etude des Textiles Anciens (CIETA)
- Honorary member Oriental Rug and Textile Society (ORTS), UK
- Associate member, Museums Association, UK

Current position(s):

- Independent consultancy Chinese textiles.
- Lecturing and teaching: V&A Academy courses Early Medieval and Textiles, 2012 – current.
- Trustee Worthing Theatres and Museum, since January 2020.

Relevant Previous Work Experience

- 9 June – 7 October 2022: Exhibition Project Officer, The Mercers' Company, London.

Facilitating exhibition “Whittington’s Legacy”, managing loan process, sourcing and securing loans, facilitating decision making on curatorial content, and supporting team.

- 1 August 2020 – 6 July 2021: Senior advisor, Nordiska museet, Stockholm.

Project managing publication on Nordiska kompaniet’s French couture atelier in Stockholm, 1902-1966, and advising on curatorial content in accompanying exhibition, “Paris of the North”.

- 1 June 2018 – 31 July 2020: Head of Department of Cultural History (Curatorial, Archive & Library, Collections management and Centre for dress & fashion), Nordiska museet, Stockholm.

Part of museum’s executive board and senior management contributing to the leadership of the museum and public programme. Responsible for leading the department through masterplan including major re-structure and re-display of galleries.

- 28 August 2017 – 31 May 2018: Head of Centre for Dress & Fashion, Nordiska museet, Stockholm. Responsible for establishing a new section. Conceiving and developing manifesto, strategies, digital platforms, public and exhibition programmes, in order to raise profile of textile collection. Co-curated exhibition “British – Ever so Nordic”.

- 1 August 2015 – 25 August 2017: Senior Curator Textiles, The Swedish History Museum, Stockholm.

Part of senior curatorial team and responsible for historic textile collection. Updating storage and study area.

- 1 January 2006 – 31 July 2015: Curator (Collections Management), Asian department, V&A.

Stein collection and Chinese textiles and dress. Project manager for Asian collections move to Clothworkers Centre for the Study and Conservation of Textiles and Fashion. Exhibition Curator “Shoes: Pleasure and Pain” (13 June 2015 – 31 January 2016). Conceived, developed, championed and acted as lead curator and

edited accompanying publication. International touring to September 2018.

- *10 June 2001 – 31 December 2005*: Assistant Curator, Department of Furniture, Textiles and Fashion, V&A. Assisting with all curatorial duties, supervising appointments to collection, initiating and managing storage projects and volunteers.

Select Publications

- “Orientalism in Swedish fashion, 1920s”, in *100 years of longing for the Orient: The Swedish Orient Society 1921-2021* (Stockholm: Makadam, forthcoming 2023)
- *Silk: Fibre, Fabric and Fashion*, ed. L Miller & A Cabrera Lafuente (London: V&A, Thames & Hudson, 2021)
- “The red woollen tunic from Egypt in the V&A collection”, co-author E-A Haldane, in *Egypt as a textile hub: Textile interrelationships in the 1st millennium AD*, ed. A de Moor, C Flück & P Linscheid (Antwerp: Lannoo, 2019)
- *British: Ever so Nordic* (Stockholm: Nordiska museet förlag, 2019)
- “Grabtuch für Holmger Knutsson”, catalogue entry in *Die Zisterzienser: Das Europa der Klöster*, ed. A Claus & A Frahm (Stuttgart: Konrad Theiss Verlag, 2017)
- “Carpet connoisseurs”, in *The Art Newspaper*, (International Edition, April 2017)
- *Shoes: Pleasure and Pain*, ed. H Persson (London: V&A Publishing, 2015, French edition 2016)
- “Walking Out”, in *Alexander McQueen*, ed. C Wilcox (London: V&A Publishing 2015)
- “Chinese silks in Mamluk Egypt”, in *Global Textile Encounters*, ed. M L Nosch (Köpenhamn: Centre for Textile Research, 2015)
- Textile analysis in *Selling Silks: A Merchant’s Sample Book 1764*, ed. L Miller (London: V&A Publishing, 2014)
- “Case Study: Leather”, in *La Moda: The Glamour of Italian Fashion*, ed. S Stanfill (London: V&A Publishing, 2014)
- “Collecting Egypt: V&A textile collection”, in *Journal of History of Collecting* (Oxford: University of Oxford, 2012)
- ‘The Stein Collection’, Microsite, Asia Features on V&A website, live March 2010
(http://www.vam.ac.uk/collections/asia/asia_features/stein_collection/index.html)
- “Mongol silks and the Italian silk industry”, in *Medieval and Renaissance Art: People and Possessions*, eds. G Davies & K Kennedy (London: V&A publishing, 2009)
- *Empirens Döttrar: Kultur och Mode under tidigt 1800-tal* [Daughters of the Empire: Culture and Fashion in early 1800s], ed. H Persson (Stockholm: Bokförlaget Atlantis, 2009)
- *Textiles from Dunhuang in UK collections*, eds. Zhao F, H Persson, H Wang and F Wood (Shanghai: Donghua University Press, 2007)
- *Nineteenth century Fashion in Detail*, ed. L Johnston (London: V&A Publishing, 2005)

Selected Papers

- “Pioneering Swedish Women in Chinese Textile Research”, 22.04.2022
Margrethe Hald and the Nordic History of Textile Research, University of Copenhagen
- “East Asian influences in Swedish fashion, 1920s-1930s”, 08.06.2021
New Research in Dress History conference, Association of Dress Historians
- “East Asian influence on Swedish fashion”, 07.11.2018
IASSRT, Korea National University of Cultural Heritage, Buyeo
- “Exotic textiles for the Swedish church”, 08.06.2017
Luxury and Exoticism workshop, University of Wolverhampton, UK
- “The Fashion and Culture of Shoes”, panel conversation, 19.11.2016
Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, USA
- “Made in China: The challenges of assigning provenance in a global world”, 10.02.2015
Fashion and Translation conference, Bunka Gakuen University, Tokyo
- “Chinese textiles and dress in the V&A Collection”, 11.12.2013
Shanghai Museum, Shanghai
- “Dyes and Colours along the Silk Road”, 21.03.2012
3000 Years of Colour: Symposium on Hallstatt textiles, Vienna
- “Pile carpets and flat weaves from the Silk Road”, 17.06.2011
International Conference of Oriental Carpets, Stockholm
- “Research and Conservation of Egyptian textiles in the V&A”, 23.09.2010
Life in Egypt during the Coptic Period, Bibliotheca Alexandria, Egypt