



Textile Museum of Canada

30 YEARS Celebrating Cloth, Culture and Art

## MEDIA RELEASE

### CLOTH THAT SHOOK THE WORLD RIOTS! UPHEAVAL! REVOLUTION! PROGRESS!

NEW EXHIBITION AT THE TEXTILE MUSEUM OF CANADA

May 2 to October 7, 2007

Curated by Max Allen

Opening reception: May 2, 6:30 to 8:00 pm, remarks at 6:45 pm

TORONTO – April 2007. Cloth is at the heart of history – locally, nationally and globally. Textiles triggered the Industrial Revolution, shaped the national independence of India, and are vital to the economic power of China.

*Cloth That Shook The World* tells twenty stories, each with textiles setting the stage for change. Featuring headlines such as **Starving Textile Workers Go On Rampages and Destroy 21 Mills, Gandhi Vows to Back Indian Weavers, Ban On Traditional Dress Sparks Revolution, and Dying Aral Sea Called Worst Environmental Disaster** – Welcome to cloth as front page news!

An evocative addition to *Cloth That Shook The World* is **Factory, a 30-minute film by the prominent Taiwanese artist Chen Chieh-jen**. To make this dream-like “documentary” Chen invited a group of women to return to the derelict Lien Fu garment factory – where they had worked for over two decades before losing their jobs. In the 1990s Taiwan’s manufacturing industries began to move abroad to other areas with cheaper labour, and the owners of the garment factory closed the plant, refusing to pay retirement pensions and severance benefits. **The film evokes a sense of time stopped and time flowing, reflecting the experiences of textile workers worldwide, overwhelmed by the tornado of change.**

Many of the textiles in *Cloth That Shook The World* were made to travel far and wide, as part of the risky worlds of commerce and profit. Others reflect the political and cultural conflicts in which they played a central role, **often resulting in starvation, riots and change.**

Sponsored by:

NANCY DREW

In Theatres June 15



- 30 -

For additional information, interviews or visuals:

Call Beth Sharpe at 416- 599-5321, x 2239 or email [bsharpe@textilemuseum.ca](mailto:bsharpe@textilemuseum.ca)

Textile Museum of Canada  
55 Centre Avenue (Dundas & University)  
Toronto, ON M5G 2H5  
T (416) 599-5321 F (416) 599-2911  
[www.textilemuseum.ca](http://www.textilemuseum.ca)  
Transit: St. Patrick Station

**Museum Hours**  
Open 7 days a week 11 am – 5 pm  
Wednesdays 11 am – 8 pm



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts  
du Canada



THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION  
LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

[torontodartscouncil](http://torontodartscouncil.com)  
An arm's length body of the City of Toronto

# PROGRAMS & EVENTS

## **Book Launch and Presentation: Factory Girl by Barbara Greenwood**

**Wednesday May 23, 6:30 pm**

Toronto-based children's author (*The Last Safe House, A Pioneer Thanksgiving*) Barbara Greenwood's new book *Factory Girl* blends fact and fiction to depict the life of working children in early 20<sup>th</sup> century North America.

*Free with admission.*

## **Curator's tour**

**Wednesday June 13, 6:30 pm**

Join Max Allen in the galleries for a tour of *Cloth that Shook the World*.

*Free with admission.*

## **Mola makke – Making Molas : One-Day Workshop and Demonstration with Domitila DeLeón de Fernandez**

**Saturday June 16, Workshop 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, Gallery Demonstration 2:15 – 5:00 pm**

Domitila DeLeón de Fernandez, a Kuna *mola* artist from Panama, will teach the traditional reverse appliqué technique used by Kuna women to create their world-renowned *molos* in this hands-on workshop. Oswaldo DeLeón Kantule, a Kuna visual artist, will speak about the history and evolution of *mola* designs and their importance in Kuna society.

A public demonstration will take place in the galleries in the afternoon.

*Members \$50, Non-members \$65, Full-time students \$40. Materials \$5.*

*Advance registration is required, class size is limited. To register call 416-599-5321 x2221. Afternoon demonstration is free with admission.*

## **Curator's tour**

**Wednesday August 15, 6:30 pm**

Join Max Allen in the galleries for a tour of *Cloth That Shook The World*.

*Free with admission*

## **The Industrial Revolution(s): Lecture Series**

**Tuesday September 18, 6:30 pm**

**Fents, Thrums, Hangings: English Weavers and the Criminal Law**

Dr. Douglas Hay, Professor, Department of History and Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.

**Tuesday October 2, 6:30 pm**

**"300,000 Little Girls in Lancashire": Making Cotton in Industrializing England**

Dr. Jeanette Neeson, Associate Professor, Department of History, York University.

*Members \$8, Non-members \$10, Full-time students Pay-What-You-Can.*

---

Textile Museum of Canada  
55 Centre Avenue (Dumas & University)  
Toronto, ON M5G 2H5  
T (416) 599-5321 F (416) 599-2911  
[www.textilemuseum.ca](http://www.textilemuseum.ca)  
Transit: St. Patrick Station



Canada Council  
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts  
du Canada



THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION  
LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

## **Museum Hours**

Open 7 days a week 11 am – 5 pm  
Wednesdays 11 am – 8 pm

**torontodartscouncil**  
An arm's length body of the City of Toronto