The Decorative Arts Center of Ohio presents

GORGEOUS

THREADS

A WORLD OF TEXTILES

May 4 - September 1, 2013

Cynthia Cort, Curator

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**Gorgeous Threads: A World of Textiles**

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Textiles soften the hard edges of our world and serve to identify us. They allow us to decorate our homes and our bodies. They are often an expression of our artistic visions and our social relationships. This exhibition points up the great variety of materials, colors, techniques and uses around the world. Included are items from Africa, Asia, the Americas and Europe. Some of these fabrics have great visual impact when seen from a distance, others are a tour-de-force of detail and complicated structure. Delight in Gorgeous Threads: A World of Textiles which presents a sampling of the myriad fabrics produced globally and housed in central Ohio collections.

**Curator’s Talk**

Sunday, June 9, 2:00pm; $8 / $5 for members

Cynthia Cunningham Cort will present a lecture and film on the process of double ikat “Patola” weaving in western India. Ikat is a remarkable technique in which threads are tie-dyed before being woven. It is produced many places in Asia, with its ultimate expression coming from Gujarat in India. Ms. Cort shot her film from 1979-1981 to document the amazing technique and will bring with her examples of these beautiful textiles, some of which are included in Gorgeous Threads: A World of Textiles.

**The Art of Handmade Batiks from Java, Indonesia**

Sunday, August 11, 2:00pm; $8 / $5 for members

Lancaster artists Debra Lunn and Michael Mrowka of Lunn Fabrics, Ltd. are responsible for designing and producing Artisan Batiks, a line of batiks especially for quilters. With 200 employees in Java they produce 600 new fabrics per year, all by hand using copper hand stamps and wax. Michael, who lives part time in the factory in Java, will show video, photos and many examples of the steps to this ancient process. Both men and women alike will be intrigued by the batik process and the labor involved in making each yard. Cultural aspects of Javanese life will also be shown.