



The Box Project: Uncommon Threads

May 21 – August 27, 2017

Glossary

Abaca – a tissue paper made from abaca plant fiber, which is delicate but very strong, similar to teabag paper.

Appliqué – ornamental cutout that is sewn onto a larger piece of fabric to create a picture.

Batik – a type of **resist** dyeing, in which wax is applied to fabric to prevent the absorption of dye in those sections.

Broadcloth – a dense, plain woven fabric usually made of wool, but sometimes cotton (sometimes called cotton-poplin).

Felt – non-woven fabric made from wool, hair, fur, or sometimes manufactured fibers, in which the fibers are locked together using heat, moisture, and pressure.

Flax – a type of plant fiber that is used to make **linen**.

Gampi Paper – a type of Japanese tissue, derived from the gampi tree.

Hemp – (or industrial hemp) is a variety of the *Cannabis sativa* plant species that is grown specifically for industrial uses such as paper, textiles, clothing, biodegradable plastics, paint, insulation, biofuel, food, and animal feed. It is one of the fastest growing plants and was one of the first to be spun into usable fiber 10,000 years ago.

Indigo – a dark blue dye obtained from the tropical Indigo plant.

Japanese Paper – a soft fine paper, originating in Japan, and made from the bark of the mulberry tree and often used in printmaking. **Japanese tissue** is a thin, almost translucent paper made from plant fibers. Common types of Japanese tissue include **gampi**, **kozo**, and **mitsumata**.

Jute – a rough plant fiber usually used for making rope or twine.

Kibiso – a kind of **silk** that is made from the fuzzy cuticle on the outside of a silkworm's cocoon. The fuzz has to be removed before spinning of regular silk is possible, but if a silk maker retains enough of the silkworm's cuticles they can be processed into a very strong silk. The silk may have to be de-gummed before it is soft enough to be used for garments.

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Kimono – a long, loose, floor length robe usually made of **silk** with wide sleeves, tied with a sash, originally worn as a formal garment in Japan and now also used elsewhere as a dressing gown.

Linen – fiber woven from the **flax** (a plant grown as a food and fiber crop), which is manufactured into soft, extremely durable lightweight woven fabrics.

Mica – a shiny silicate mineral found in granite and other rocks.

Muslin – plain woven cotton fabric made in various weights.

Organza – sheer, plain woven fabric usually derived from **silk**.

Quilting – the process of sewing layers of fabric together to create a padded textile, usually with batting in the center.

Resin – a solid or viscous material of organic or synthetic sources, which can be used as an adhesive, coating, or plastic material.

Resist – a traditional method of dyeing used to create patterns (also known as **ikat**, **rozome**, **batik**, or **stitch-resist**). Sections of the fabric are covered or coated to prevent dye from penetrating the cloth in all areas.

Rozome – a Japanese version of **batik** or **resist** dyeing.

Sequin Plastic – the blanks (or backing) from the sequin manufacturing process.

Shibori – the Japanese term for embellishing textiles (usually silk) by shaping and securing the cloth before dyeing to create patterns.

Silk – a natural material obtained from the cocoons of silk worms. Known for being lightweight and having a smooth finish.

Solvly® – water soluble stabilizer, used to create a clearer surface for needlework by not allowing stitches to “sink into” the fabric.

Sumi Ink – a black Japanese ink made from glue and soot, solidified into cakes, and then rehydrated by the artist as needed.

Technical Textiles – a fabric manufactured for non-aesthetic purposes, such as heat and radiation resistance, medical applications, and agricultural needs.

Wax Resist – see **Resist**.