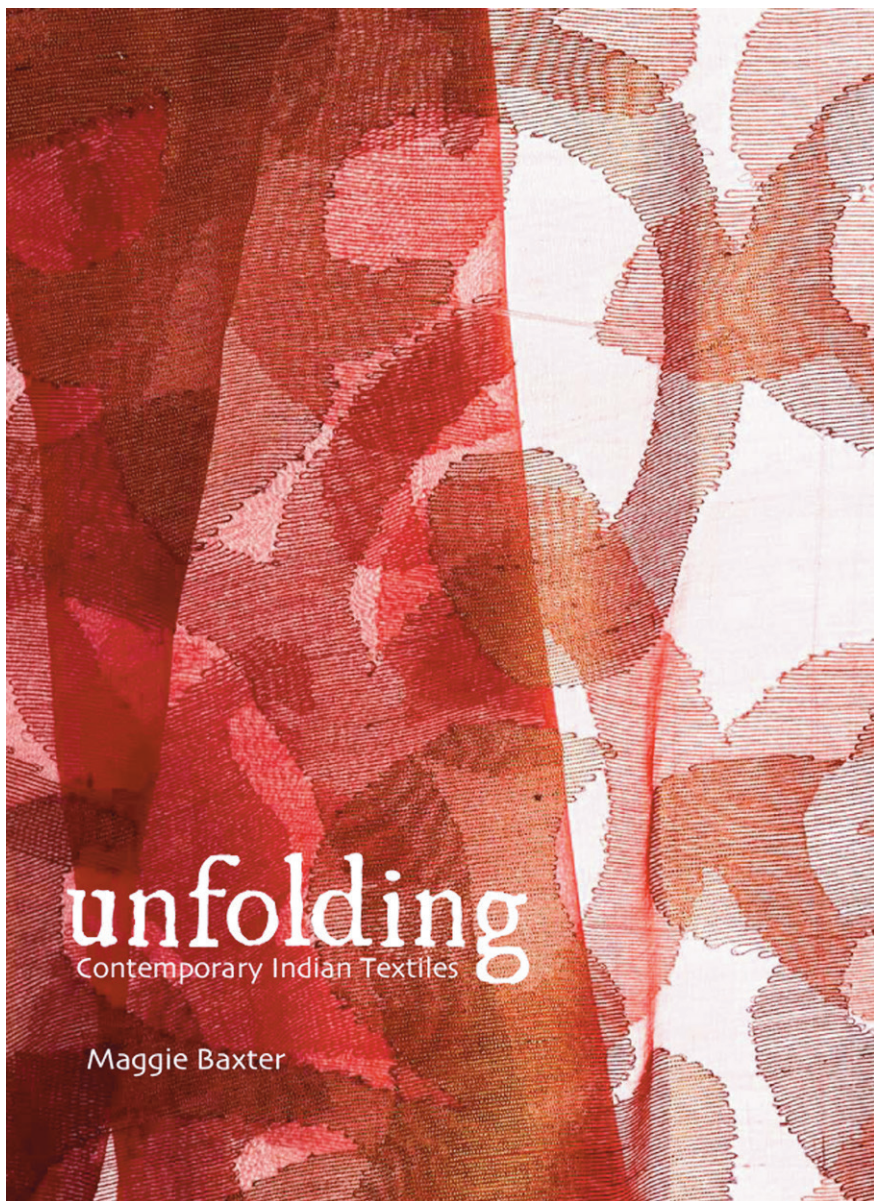


UNFOLDING

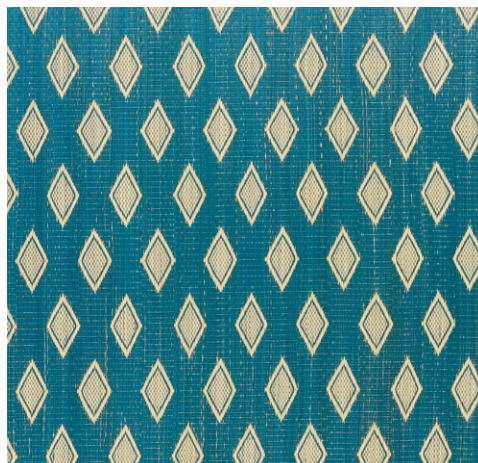
by Maggie Baxter
Contemporary Indian Textiles



This is a groundbreaking and vivid exploration of how the rich and diverse textile craft tradition of India has been adopted and adapted by craftsmen, designers and artists of the twenty-first century.

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300 x 228 mm; 188 pages
88 colour, 11 b/w photographs
Backmatter includes Artist
biographies, Bibliography
Glossary & Index



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UNFOLDING

Contemporary Indian Textiles

£55 Hardcover

by Maggie Baxter

'Unfolding' is a timely and vital examination of how the rich and diverse textile craft traditions of India have been adopted/adapted in the 21st century. The author looks at 'new interpretations made within the current cultural landscape by designers who dare to take steps into the unknown'. Traditional techniques and motifs are reworked in innovative, progressive ways, creating a fresh new visual language that is still identifiably Indian.

Separate chapters examine the work of 23 designers and artists in terms of craft revival, surface treatment, texture, minimalism, and narrative. *Raw Mango*, for example, glories in the drenched colour of the cones of pure colour pigments found in Indian markets creating saris of extreme colour that are both minimalist and overpoweringly intense, while *Bai Lou* reposition the delicate motifs of Bengali *jam-dani*, scaling them up into bold, oversized, geometric shapes. In Kutch, architect and designer Kirit Dave deconstructed the rigidly arithmetic system of *ikat* into deliberate fracture and dissonance, whereas for *Ravage* disharmony is achieved by piercing, fraying and embellishing fabrics to make highly theatrical garments that simultaneously allude to bazaar kitsch and Punk subculture. Popular culture is celebrated with *Play Clan's* madcap digital prints and hand embroideries and *Goodearth's* unashamedly romantic delving into Bollywood, history and legends.

The last chapter looks at the small but growing number of Indian artists such as Mithu Sen, Manisha Parekh, and Parul Thacker for whom fibre and fabric are an integral part of their studio and gallery practice.



Maggie Baxter is an Australian artist, writer, independent curator, and public art coordinator. She first visited India in 1990 and has since been a frequent visitor, particularly to Kutch, in Gujarat, where she maintains a textile arts practice that uses traditional textile techniques as media for contemporary art. She has exhibited regularly since 1984 in both group and solo exhibitions in Australia, India, Japan and UK. She held her first solo exhibition in India at the Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre in December 2004, for which she won their award for the Best Design and Craft Show 2004. In Australia she works primarily in the area of public art coordination, managing a significant number of large-scale individual integrated artworks for major urban redevelopment projects.

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