

# "Colorful World: Overview of Natural Dyes"

## The First Biennale of Natural Dyes

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Announcement



Host: Zhejiang Culture and Tourism Office  
Bureau of Cultural Relics of Zhejiang Province  
Organizer: China National Silk Museum  
Co-organizer: China Academy of Art

Chair: Dr. Feng Zhao (Director of China National Silk Museum, Hangzhou, PR China)  
Co-chair: Dr. Dominique Cardon (Directrice de Recherche émérite CNRS, Lyon, France)

China National Silk Museum: 73-1 Yuhuangshan Road, Hangzhou, 310002, PR China

May 20-24, 2019

The advent of synthetic dyes in the 19th century brought a steep decline in the centuries-old productions of natural dyes around the world. By the beginning of the 21st century, however, interest in natural dyes underwent a revival as urban dwellers rediscovered nature as the answer for achieving solace and harmonious living. Today, many international communities are advocating the use of natural dyes in modern practices and promoting researches on ancient dyeing techniques. In recognition for these artistic and scientific endeavors, the China National Silk Museum (CNSM) organizes the first biennale of natural dyes, with an aim to celebrate the beauty of colors in nature, as well as to explore the ancient wisdom and knowledge embodied in the traditional craft of dyeing.

## 1. Exhibitions

### 1.1. 300-Year History of Dyes on Textiles in Europe and Asia

In recent years, CNSM has acquired a large collection of 17th -19th centuries world textiles. CNSM scientists uses these textiles as reference samples to analyses the dye components and to perform comparative studies with dyes known to be produced in Asian and European countries. The results show that the world of natural dyes is highly diverse; dyes from different regions and time periods vary in their scientific components, technological processes, artistic choices, and cultural meanings.

### 1.2. Contemporary Art and Design Works on Natural Dyeing

Synthetic dyes have been around for several centuries and were highly popular among dyers due to their ease of use and transport. Today, however, natural dyeing breathes new life as more crafts people return to using natural colorants, often viewed as heavenly gifts. In this BOND event, CNSM is inviting craftsmen and artisans worldwide to showcase their contemporary natural-dyed works on the theme of "natural dyestuffs" around the world. This part of the exhibition is aimed to highlight artistic creations and expressions using natural dyes, with emphasis of cross-border cultural design ideas. So far, we have received around 100 submissions of artworks, but we are still accepting submission until 28 February 2019 (See **Annex 1** for the registration form).

## 2. "Colorful World: Natural Dyes" Symposium

Dye masters and scholars from different parts of the world will share their knowledge on modern and ancient dyeing practices in different cultures and decorative techniques employing natural colorants. During the symposium, the audience will gain insight and higher appreciation of the rich diversity of natural dyes and the complex issues surrounding their study. Registration with fee is required (See **Annex 2** for the registration form).

### Symposium Program

Name	Lecture Topic
Feng Zhao & Jian Liu	Natural dyes on the Silk Road

Qixiong Zeng	Traditional colors in the Chinese history
Anne de la Sayette	Experience in the production of dye-plants and plant extracts and in the development of industrial applications of natural dyes in Europe
Richard Laursen	Identification of sources of textile dyes in the ancient world: based on analytical data
Diego Tamburini	Integrated protocols to investigate natural dyes at the British Museum on a series of textiles from Egypt
Dominique Cardon	Natural dyes: cultures of colors
Kazuki Yamazaki	Traditional dyes from the Edo period
Eber Ferreira	Sustainable extraction of natural dyes in partnership with traditional communities living in areas of extractive reserves in the Brazilian Amazon - South America
Anita Quye	Reinvent and recreate: understanding Scotland's nineteenth century textiles through knowledge exchange and research networks
Rashmi Bharti	Avani Himalayan blue-pioneering the cultivation of three varieties of indigo in the Indian Himalayas
Andrée Etheve	Maintaining traditions and developing natural dyes in Madagascar-case study of raphia ikats and wild silk
Aboubakar Fofana	West African indigo traditions in contemporary art and craft
Kathy Hattori	From the production of plant extracts to natural dyeing for the Slow Fashion in the USA

### 3. Workshops

CNSM will organize workshops on traditional dyeing technology and different decorative techniques from various world regions. The workshops will include reconstitution of Qianlong palette, traditional Japanese dyeing, clamp-resist dyeing and ash-resist dyeing, traditional African dyeing, etc. Registration with fee is required (See **Annex 3** for the registration form).

#### Workshops Program

Name	Demonstrator	Fee/person	Duration	Max participants
Qianlong colors	Zhongliang Zhang & Jian Liu	300 CNY	1/2 day	30
Safflower and Turmeric	Kazuki Yamazaki	600 CNY	1/2 day	30
Indigo dyeing	Haoran Wang	600 CNY	1 day	16
Ash-resist dyeing	Xiaofeng Cao	600 CNY	1 day	16
Wax-resisit dyeing	Weiwei Gu	600 CNY	1 day	16
Tie dyeing	Hanmin Zhang	300 CNY	1/2 day	16

Clamp-resist dyeing	Hesheng Wang	500 CNY	1/2 day	10
Indian traditional dyeing	Shamji Vankar	600 CNY	1/2 day	30
Thailand's natural dyes	A. Rojanachotikul (Prang)	1000 CNY	1 day	30
Coloring alpaca wool with Peruvian dyes	Diana Hendrickson	1500 CNY	1 day	30

#### **4. Craft Market**

There will be an international craft market of up to 20 stalls. To participate as a vendor requires a fee of 800-1500 CNY per stall for one week. Interested vendors should send an application to [liujian@cnsilkmuseum.org](mailto:liujian@cnsilkmuseum.org). All proposals will be selected by a committee.

#### **5. A Study Tour**

CNSM will organize a week-long trip to Minority zone in Guizhou Province where participants would learn more about natural dyes. An estimated cost is 8500 CNY per person. To join the tour, please send a letter of interest to [shuise2015@foxmail.com](mailto:shuise2015@foxmail.com).

## Annex 1

### Contemporary Art and Design Works on Natural Dyeing Exhibition Registration Form

Name		Gender		Age	
Nationality			ID No.		
Tel.			Email Address		
Address					
Affiliation					
Name of Work		Size		Material	
Introduction of Artist	Within 200 words				
Work Introduction	Including concept, techniques, dyestuffs and so on, within 300 words				

#### Requirements:

1. The work should be only made with natural dyes. Size: planar works, with length and width respectively not more than 3 meters; three-dimensional works, volume not more than 6 cubic meters. In case of special works, please contact the organizing committee. Works should be original. Subjects, styles and materials are not limited.
2. The organizer only accepts works' electronic photos or design sketches. Please name the picture after "Author Name + Work Name" and send it to Zhao Fan: [zhaofan@cnsilkmuseum.org](mailto:zhaofan@cnsilkmuseum.org), along with the submission registration form. The image format should be "JPG", the resolution should be 300dpi, and the file not more than 5M. The deadline for submission is 24:00 of February 28, 2019. For those works that fail the initial selection, no notification will be given. If your work is selected, you will be notified by e-mail. Excellent works will have the opportunity to be purchased by the CNSM and integrated into the museum's collection.

## Annex 2

### 1<sup>st</sup> Biennale of Natural Dyes Symposium Registration Form

Name / Nationality		Position/Title	
Affiliation			
Address			
Tel.		Email Address	
Describe the natural dyes and printing and dyeing technology used in your country and region (optional)			

Remarks:

1. Registration fee for symposium is 1400 CNY / person, including: materials, 4 lunches, and 2 dinners. Students who have a Student ID card will get a discount and the fee is CNY RMB / person. If invoices are required, please provide the name and tax number. Receipts are available.
2. Please send this form to Liu Jian: [liujian@cnsilkmuseum.org](mailto:liujian@cnsilkmuseum.org) before March 31, 2019.

## Annex 3

### Workshop Registration Form

Name / Nationality		Position/Title	
Affiliation			
Address			
Tel.		Email Address	

Workshops	Demonstrator	Fee/person	Choice number
Qianlong colors	Zhongliang Zhang & Jian Liu	300 CNY	
Safflower and Turmeric	Kazuki Yamazaki	600 CNY	
Indigo dyeing	Haoran Wang	600 CNY	
Ash-resist dyeing	Xiaofeng Cao	600 CNY	
Wax-resisit dyeing	Weiwei Gu	600 CNY	
Tie dyeing	Hanmin Zhang	300 CNY	
Clamp-resist dyeing	Hesheng Wang	500 CNY	
Indian traditional dyeing	Shamji Vankar	600 CNY	
Thailand's natural dyes	B. Rojanachotikul (Prang)	1000 CNY	
Coloring alpaca wool with Peruvian dyes	Diana Hendrickson	1500 CNY	

Remarks:

1. Rank your preferences up to 5 choices. Due to high demand, it is possible that not all your choices would be granted.
2. Please send an application with your indicated preferences to [chenluwen@cnsilkmuseum.org](mailto:chenluwen@cnsilkmuseum.org)