



CIRCULAR LETTER

January 2007

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Dear Colleagues,

The International research group "Textiles from the Nile Valley" is going to prepare its 5th workshop. We are very pleased to announce that Karine and Fernand Huts will host us again at "HeadquARTers" in the heart of their business centre Katoen Natie, Van Aerdtsstraat 33, B-2060 Antwerp. The conference will take place from **Saturday 6th to Sunday 7th October 2007**.

After a lively discussion on various themes with some of you we finally decided for "**Textiles and architecture**" as general topic for the next meeting. As usual, contributions – preferably in English – should be based on material from Egypt of the 1st millennium approximately. Of course references and comparisons to the neighbouring countries of the Mediterranean and the Near East are most appreciated.

What subjects can be treated within "Textiles and architecture" ?

- textiles used in the house (all soft furnishing like coverings, hangings, cushions, mattresses etc.) and discussion of social aspects
- textiles for the decoration of public and cultic buildings
- iconography of furnishing textiles
- depictions of textiles in architectural context
- vice versa: depictions of architecture on textiles themselves
- furnishing textiles in historical sources (literary, documentary)
- technique and conservation of furnishing textiles
- etc.

Any further ideas to this theme are welcome!

Some of you expressed the wish to establish a **section on current research** on textile history, technology and conservation during our biannual meetings. Thus everybody who wants to introduce and discuss his/her project is welcome.

Those who are interested to give a paper in Antwerp either on the “textiles and architecture”-subject or on own research are kindly requested to contact us as soon as possible, preferably until the **end of April 2007**.

For all those who would like to participate without giving a paper: Please, inform us about your participation as soon as possible too, at the latest until **31 July 2007**.

All participants are hereby invited to a walk through the new galleries at HeadquARTers showing Islamic and Central Asian textiles and related objects of art on Friday 5th October 2007, 18.00 h. A walking dinner will be offered at this occasion. The tunic gallery will be open to visitors at that evening too.

To get an up-to-date overview on our field of research we very much would appreciate, if you can inform us about your individual projects and bibliography on ancient textiles from Egypt and neighbouring countries of the last two years (2005-2007). If you agree, the results will be available in lists again during the workshop.

We would be happy to welcome you in Antwerp, even though we have to confess that we cannot cover your costs. You will find a list of central, reasonably priced hotels at the end of this circular.

With our best wishes for the New Year and many thanks for the inspiring exchange so far,

Yours faithfully,

Antoine de Moor
Cäcilia Fluck

!!! NOTA BENE !!!

- Collection of late antique textiles from Egypt in the Museum for Applied Arts in Vienna online: <http://sammlungen.mak.at> (link: Spätantike Textilien, Late Antique Textiles)
- Forthcoming exhibition 01. April – 24. June 2007: „Verborgene Zierde – Spätantike und islamische Textilien aus Ägypten in Halle“ in the Stiftung Moritzburg. Kunstmuseum des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt, Halle.

HOTELS:

Express by Holiday Inn

Price: 76 EUR per night / room (double or single use), breakfast included

Info: www.hiexpress.com, Express By Holiday Inn, Italielei 2A, B-2000 Antwerp, Tel. 0032-32-214949

n. b.: this price is a special offer for Katoen Natie. For reservation please contact: Travel@katoennatie.com, mail: Heidi Scheers, Van Aerdtstraat 33, B-2060 Antwerp, phone: 0032-32-216811.

Radisson Sas

Prices: 105 EUR per night / room (double or single use) from Friday to Saturday night; 129 EUR per night / room for all other nights, continental breakfast and locker in the room incl., buffet breakfast 24 EUR per person

Info: www.radissonsas.com, e-mail: guest-antwerp@radissonSAS.com, van Eycklei 34, B-2018 Antwerp, phone: 0032-32-858585

Theater Hotel

Price: 110 EUR per night / room, breakfast incl.

Info: Alfa Theater, Arenbergstraat 30, B-2000 Antwerp, Tel. 0032-32-311720, reservation@alfahotels.com