

Share and Co-Creation: History of Global Production, Circulation and Consumption of Cloth/Clothing and Material Culture

Michael North

Possessions of Sarongs in Batavia and Malacca (18th century)

Anne McCants

The possession of globally-traded textiles among Amsterdam inhabitants in the 18th century

Miki Sugiura

Garments for sail and textiles for slaves. Possessions of Cloth and Clothing in Cape Town in the 18th century

Renate Pieper

Changing dress codes in the Spanish Empire during the 18th century

===Break===

Izumi Takeda

Irish coarse linens and the American market: an analysis from an 18th-century perspective

Salvatore Ciriaco,

Chinese, Japanese and European Silk. A comparative approach

Naoko Inoue

Silk waste industry in Japan in global context from late 19th century to early 20th century

Jeremy Prestholdt

Fashion between empires: African consumers, Japanese industry and the limits of colonial power

=== (One more participant might be added) ===

Discussants: Klaus Weber, Takeshi Abe

This session explores how cloth and clothing became “global products”, i.e. products that are more or less standardized, globally marketed, produced, circulated, and shared. Recently, much progress has been made on history of textiles and fashion incorporating global perspectives. However, compared to the studies of other “global products” (e.g. sugar, cotton), cloth or clothing are not accepted as “global products”. This must be due to the fact that supply chains, markets as well as local dress codes are complicated and layered.

Thus, as regards for answering why more people in the various parts of the globe began to share similar styles of garments, mainstream frameworks remain dialectical, centering on “diffusion, acceptance, and adaptation” of European style garments to another, or supply side oriented, concentrating on technological and organizational innovations of producing and circulating cheaper mass products .

This project firstly puts circular viewpoints forward and sets “share and co-creation” for its main theme. Secondly it focuses on the demand side, and explores how users’ roles could be incorporated in the process of the co-creation of cloth or clothing as global product.

We believe that the process should be discussed more in longer time periods, overviewing 16-20th

century. In this session, we focus particularly on two periods, 1) 18th century and 2) late 19th -20th century, in order to have more concrete discussion.

The session sets following three sub sessions

1. Linking 18th-century Cloth and Clothing Possessions in One Global Line

This section will connect cloth and clothing possessions of Amsterdam, Batavia and Cape Town inhabitants from inventories in 18th century and investigate what types of cloth or clothing established itself as global product, and in what context, within the same supply chain.

2. Interweaving of 18th-century Global Supply Chains and Changing Dress Codes

This section will discuss how the changes in supply chains affected the local and interregional dress codes and vice versa in global perspective. One presentation will focus on regional connection (Spanish related) and another on material (coarse linen) respectively

3. Were 20th-century “Made in Japan” Products Global?

This section in turn focuses mainly on early 20th century, and how a non-European region cultivated export oriented textile-related products globally. It will focus on two Japan’s “originally European style or originated” products that were successful, namely silk waste products, and printed textiles exported to Africa, and investigate the dynamics between different layers of the markets and supply chains. It also offers a comparative view investigating Chinese silk production and distribution during the same period.

List of Participants

1. Miki Sugiura (Hosei University [Japan]) Session Organizer 1
2. Michael North (University of Greifswald [Germany]) Session Organizer 2
3. Renate Pieper (University of Graz [Austria])
4. Izumi Takeda (Wako University [Japan])
5. Anne McCants (MIT [USA])
6. Naoko Inoue (Tokyo International University [Japan])
7. Jeremy Prestholdt (University of California, San Diego [USA])
8. Salvatore Ciriaco (University of Padua, [Italy])
9. Klaus Weber (Europa Universität Viadrina, Frankfurt [Germany])
10. Takeshi Abe (Kokushikan University [Japan])