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Books about Bolivia—Annotated List

Dyes and Dyeing

- *A Perfect Red*. Greenfield, Amy Butler. Harper Perennial, New York, 2005.
 - *This book is an engaging read through an interpreted history of cochineal including the politics and various discoveries over time, along with the beautiful textiles created by the dye. Some information is given on Pizarro's conquest of Peru in 1533 and its contribution to the culture and art of cochineal.*
- *A Red Like No Other: How Cochineal Colored the World*. Carmella Padilla and Barbara Anderson. Skira Rizzoli, 2015.
 - *A Red Like No Other translates the cochineal story into three dimensions, following the precious bug juice from Mexico to Europe and beyond as it insinuated itself into all forms of art, politics, and commerce. More than 20 scholars and other experts contributed essays in art, history, economics, and conservation.* Publisher
- *Cochineal and The Insect Dyes*. Gerber, Frederick. Ormond Beach, FL, 1978. .
 - *This pamphlet-style book is for craft dyers interested in working with natural sources of pigment and includes a historical background, descriptions of studies, and for complete copies, an insert with samples dyed with various modifiers.*
- *Cochineal Red: The Art History of a Color*. Phipps, Elena. Metropolitan Museum of Art, Yale University Press, 2010.
 - *Phipps, former conservator and textile scholar at the Metropolitan Museum of New York, describes cochineal's earliest origins in South America and Mexico and then travels in time using existing textiles present in the Met collection while tracing cochineal's journey into western Europe and around the world into the 20th century.*
- *Natural Dyes: Sources, Tradition, Technology and Science*. Cardon, Dominique. Archetype Publications, London, 2007.
 - *This book sets out to record sources of colorants discovered and used on all the continents from antiquity until the present day. Some 300 plants and 30 animals (marine molluscs and scale insects) are illustrated and discussed by the author, whose passion for natural dyes, with their colors of unequalled richness and subtlety, has taken her across the globe in search of dye sources and dyers.* Google Books
- *True Colors: World Masters of Natural Dyes & Pigments*. Schiffer Books, 2019. Recker, Keith.
 - *True Colors shares in depth conversations with 28 artisans from across the globe*

focusing on the creation of color from natural materials and the historical and environmental aspects of natural dyeing. Thrumming.net

Fiction and Poetry

- *Fire from the Andes: Short Fiction by Women from Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru.* Benner, Susan and Kathy S. Leonard, editors. University of New Mexico Press. 1998
 - *A collection of short stories from 24 authors, showcasing the experiences of South American women struggling against various forms of social injustice. The biographies of each author provide a fuller understanding of and context for the experiences of the women, indigenous peoples, and other marginalized groups that provided the foundation of these works of fiction.*

History

- *Llamas, Weavings, and Organic Chocolate: Multicultural Grassroots Development in the Andes and Amazon of Bolivia.* Healy, Kevin. Kellogg Institute Series on Democracy and Development. University of Notre Dame Press, 2001.
 - *In this story of Bolivian rural development and cultural change, Part I provides an overview of the history of rural development in Bolivia--the long history of anti-indigenous discrimination, the introduction of aid programs in the Western development paradigm, the rise of grassroots movements challenging this paradigm, and the array of initiatives now contributing to the revitalization of indigenous cultural resources. Part II consists of in-depth narratives of nine projects, giving an inside view of the processes that interweave cultural recuperation and developmental strategies.* Google Books
- *The Bolivia Reader: History, Culture, Politics (The Latin America Readers).* Thomson, Sinclair, Barragan, Rosanna, et. al., editors. Duke University Press, 2018.
 - *The Bolivia Reader illustrates the historical depth and contemporary challenges of Bolivia in all their complexity. Whether documenting Inka rule or Spanish conquest, three centuries at the center of Spanish empire, or the turbulent politics and cultural vibrancy of the national period, these sources—the majority of which appear in English for the first time—foreground the voices of actors from many different walks of life.* Amazon

Techniques/Learning

- *Andean Folk Knitting: Traditions and Techniques from Peru and Bolivia.* LeCount, Cynthia Gravelle. DOS Tejedoras Fiber Arts Publications, 1990.
 - *The author provides fascinating insight into the rich history and tradition of knitted clothes in Andean culture, such as the ch'ullu, the knitted cap which signifies different aspects of the wearer's identity. The book details dozens of other traditional Andean knit clothing and describes the purpose of each piece, as well as its maker, wearer, and place of origin, whenever possible.* Smithsonian Libraries

- *Andean Pebble Weave*. Waddington, Laverne. 2010.
 - *Andean Pebble Weave enables you, through four lessons packed with step-by-step photos, detailed instructions and pattern charts, to produce both traditional and contemporary pebble weave figures and designs—from the most basic geometrics to Andean fauna. From backstrap to tapestry to rigid heddle loom, any sturdy frame with adjustable tension that can be used to produce a warp-faced band can be used to weave these delightful motifs. Taproot Video*
- *Backstrap Weaving*. Taylor, Barbara and Marilyn D. Anderson. Watson-Guptill Publications, 1975.
 - *Following the discussion of the history and components of backstrap, this book offers the reader a step-by-step how to do backstrap weaving and includes projects and finishing techniques.*
- *Bolivian Tubular Edging & Andean Crossed-Warp Techniques*. Cahlander, Adele. DOS Tejedoras Fiber Arts Publications, 1994.
 - *Detailing the intricate decorative finishes on traditional Andean textiles, this guide reveals the finger-manipulating techniques for cross-warping edgings.*
- *Finishes in the Ethnic Tradition*. Baizerman, Suzanne and Searle, Karen. DOS Tejedoras Fiber Arts Publications, 1978.
 - *"We have entitled this book FINISHES IN THE ETHNIC TRADITION because we hope to establish the same kind of high standards for completing hand woven goods as those that are used in the fine ethnic textiles we have studied in museums, in our travels and in private collections."* From the introduction
- *Latin American Brocades: Explorations in Supplementary Weft Techniques*. Baizerman, Suzanne and Searle, Karen. DOS Tejedoras Fiber Arts Publications, 1976.
 - *The authors describe the weaves found in ancient and modern fabrics from the textile centers of Latin America. The book is divided into two parts: Part I describes supplementary weft patterns; Part II offers instructions for executing the techniques on two-harness, rigid heddle, backstrap and multi-harness looms.*
- *More Adventures with Warp-Faced Pick-Up Patterns*. Waddington, Laverne. 2012.
 - *Enjoy more adventures with the Andean Pebble Weave technique while venturing deeper into the world of double-faced patterns with tutorials on new structures and design inspiration from around the world.*
- *Textiles of Central and South America*. Thompson, Angela. Crowood, 2006.
 - *This fascinating book looks at differences and similarities between the weaving and textile techniques and traditions of the various Latin American countries and explores symbolic meanings of the designs woven into or imprinted onto the cloth.* Google Books
- *The Art of Bolivian Highland Weaving*. Cason, Marjorie, and Adele Cahlander. Watson-Guptill Publications, 1976.
 - *This book is a full documentation of both the techniques and the rich visual history of Bolivian Highland weaving and shows an intricately structured yet easy-to-follow method of creating colorful pattern bands and cloth.*
- *The Eye-Pattern Tubular Band*. Waddington, Laverne. 2019.
 - *The tubular band with its distinctive eye pattern can also be woven independently and used in jewelry and accessories. A loom is not required. One end of the warp is attached to the weaver's waist with the other end tied to a*

fixed point. Weaving bands is not dependent on the use of heddles and all the sheds are created by hand. From author's website.

Textiles

- *Andean Aesthetics: Textiles of Peru and Bolivia.* University of Wisconsin, 1987. Femenias, Blenda; Medlin, Mary Ann; Meisch, Lynn; and Zorn, Elayne.
 - Illustrated catalogue of 1987 exhibition "Selections from the Helen L. Allen Textile Collection, School of Family Resources and Consumer Sciences," Elvehjem Museum of Art, University of Wisconsin, including information about design principles in Andean textiles and detailing textiles from Tarabuco, Bolivia and Taquile Island, Peru.
- *Arts and Crafts of South America.* Davies, Lucy and Mo Fini. Chronicle Books, 1995.
 - *Combining historical perspectives and cultural insights with descriptions of present-day techniques, the authors textile traditions of the Wayuu, Aymara, and Kuna Indians; painting on clay, leather, and glass, along with other art forms and crafts. Full-color photography illustrates each of the crafts described, and a comprehensive reference section offers detailed advice on collecting and conserving these native treasures.*
- *AYMARA Weavings: Ceremonial Textiles of Colonial & 19th Century Bolivia.* Anderson, Laurie and Arthur Tracht. Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, 1983.
 - *The colonial and nineteenth century ceremonial weavings of the Aymara Indians of Bolivia are the legacy of a three-thousand-year-old textile tradition that flourished in the Lake Titicaca Basin Plateau. Using archeological and ethnohistorical information and their own ethnographic fieldwork, the authors discuss the pre-Columbian origins of the textiles and their development, continuity, and change as a consequence of Spanish colonization. This full-color publication features more than 100 color plates, two maps, and a glossary of Aymara textile terminology. Dust jacket notes*
- *Bolivian Indian Textiles: Traditional Designs and Costumes.* Wasserman, Tamara E. and Hill, Jonathan S. Dover Pictorial Archive Series, 1981.
- *Master Weavers of the Altiplano: The Ancestral Artistry of Highland Women: Textiles & Photographs from the Bradley R. Cross Collection.* Duff, Robert. La Paz Publications, 2015.
 - *200 images of antique tribal weavings with mid 1970s period photos and explanatory text.* Google Books
- *Textile Traditions of Mesoamerica and the Andes: An Anthology.* Schevill, Margot Blum, Berlo, Janet Catherine, and Dwy, Edward, editors. University of Texas Press, 1996/2010.
 - *In this volume, anthropologists, art historians, fiber artists, and technologists come together to explore the meanings, uses, and fabrication of textiles in Mexico, Guatemala, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia from Precolumbian times to the present. Originally published in 1991 by Garland Publishing, the book grew out of a 1987 symposium held in conjunction with the exhibit "Costume as Communication: Ethnographic Costumes and Textiles from Middle America and the Central Andes of South America" at the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, Brown University.* Google Books

- *Traveling Bolivia through the Wonders of Weaving*. Barth, Katy and Oroza, Teresa. Jackson International, 2001.
 - *This bilingual book on weaving in Bolivia discusses fibers, spinning, dyeing, looms, preparing the loom, and step by step techniques along with designs and colors unique to various regions.*
- *Weaving Traditions of Highland Bolivia*. Adelson, Laurie. Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, January 1978.
 - Illustrated catalogue from 1978 exhibition, including information about the development of weaving and dress, the weaving process, costume, and regions.

Travel

- *A Textile Traveler's Guide to Peru & Bolivia*. Samake, Cynthia Lecount. Schiffer Books, 2019.
 - *From the marketplace of famed Machu Picchu to the outrageous costumes of Bolivia's Carnival, travel along and discover some of the finest indigenous textiles in South America. A Textile Traveler's Guide to Peru and Bolivia is an excellent resource for markets, festivals, museums, and shops.* Google Books
- *Land Without Evil: Utopian Journeys Across the South American Watershed*. Gott, Richard. Verso, 1993.
 - *Intermingling accounts of his own travels over many years with those Jesuit priests, Spanish conquistadors and Portuguese Mamelukes, together with those of other visitors such as Alcides D'Orbigny, Theodore Roosevelt, and Claude Levi-Strauss, Richard Gott weaves a complex web of narrative that brings to life the almost unknown frontier land of Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay.* Google Books

Other Books of Interest:

- *The Invention of Nature: Alexander von Humboldt's New World*. Wulf, Andrea. Vintage, 2016.
 - *This nonfiction book is about the Prussian naturalist, explorer and geographer Alexander von Humboldt. The book follows Humboldt from his early childhood and travels through Europe as a young man to his journey through Latin America and his return to Europe. Wulf makes the case that Humboldt synthesized knowledge from many different fields to form a vision of nature as one interconnected system, that would go on to influence scientists, activists and the public.* Wikipedia