

Louise W. Mackie
Curator, Textiles & Islamic Art
The Cleveland Museum of Art

Louise W. Mackie is responsible for the museum's internationally renowned worldwide textile collection as well as its collection of art from Islamic lands. She has completed a survey of Islamic textiles, *Symbols of Power: Luxury Textiles from Islamic Lands, 7th–21st Century*, published by the Cleveland Museum of Art in December 2015. Mackie has been curator since 1998.

Mackie installed the museum's Italian paintings with related textiles in *Draped in Splendor: Renaissance Textiles and the Church* (2003–4), accompanied by a touch-screen interactive titled "How to Look at Textiles." She also served as host curator for *The Quilts of Gee's Bend; Treasury of the World; Jeweled Arts of India in the Age of the Mughals*; and *Fabric of Enchantment: Indonesian Batik from the North Coast of Java from the Inger McCabe Elliott Collection*.

Before coming to Cleveland in 1998, Mackie served as the department head and curator of the textile and costume department at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Canada (1981–98). She trained in textiles and carpets under Irene Emery and Charles Grant Ellis at the Textile Museum in Washington, D.C., where she was curator of the Eastern Hemisphere Collections (1971–80). Previously, she was secretary in the Islamic department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (1964–67).

In addition to giving numerous scholarly and public lectures on Islamic textiles and carpets, she taught in the Fine Arts department at the University of Toronto. She has consulted on Islamic textiles, including medieval textiles excavated at Fustat (Old Cairo) by Prof. George Scanlon in 1980.

Mackie has also written catalogues, chapters, and articles and contributed to large research projects. She was the video producer and project director of interdisciplinary fieldwork for *Threads of Time: Handmade Textiles for Weddings in Fez, Morocco*, a video documentary (1996) partially funded by the Barakat Foundation, which also led to conference papers and published articles. She served as the textile scholar for *IPEK: Imperial Ottoman Silks and Velvets* (2001), an extensive collaborative international research project on Ottoman Turkish silks of the 15th to 17th centuries, spearheaded by Prof. Dr. Nurhan Atasoy along with Dr. Hulya Tezcan and Prof. Walter B. Denny, and generously funded by the Turk Ekonomi Bankasi, Istanbul, Turkey.

Mackie was a founding director and past president of the Textile Society of America. She continues to serve on the Conseil de Direction of the Centre International d'Etude des Textiles Anciens (CIETA), based in Lyon, France (1985–87, 1991–), and previously sat on the Advisory Committee of the Textile Museum, Washington, D.C. (1982–89).

She holds a BA in art history from Wells College and an MA in Islamic art from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. Additional studies include coursework for a PhD at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, and coursework in Islamic art at the American University in Cairo.