Sew to Speak: Narrative Textiles in Human Rights and Healing Practices

This meeting will bring together women from different parts of the world who are innovators in the contemporary application of an ancient art form: tapestries that tell an 'unspeakable' narrative. Across many cultures, women who have been oppressed and abused have come together to create textiles for self-expression, political resistance, mutual support, and healing.

September 12—14, 2014

Webster University, Geneva, Switzerland *Schedule:*

Friday, September 12, 9am-5pm *Workshops, Presentations* **Saturday, Sept. 13, 8am-5:30pm** *Workshops, Focus Groups, Presentations, Networking and Films*

Sunday, September 14, 9am-5pm *Open Studio, Facilitated Discussion, Evaluation*

This meeting will foster international collaboration across disciplines to further the work of narrative textiles for human rights, healing of trauma, and empowering women. The sessions will blend practice with theory, and give opportunities for each participant to share her work and wisdom. This conference will focus on developing insights and connections, yielding new collaborations, clarity of purpose, and a worldwide network of women who will continue their healing and empowering work within their communities.





Taller de Arpilleras, Collection of Oshima Hakko Musuem, Japan Photo by Martin Melaugh



Outcome vision:

- Establish global network for ongoing collegial exchange
- Develop collaborations across disciplines
- Increase the sense of shared purpose across cultures
- Enrich projects of each participant whose work will be influenced by exposure to textiles from other cultures and perspectives
- Inspire innovation in future textile/ healing/advocacy projects