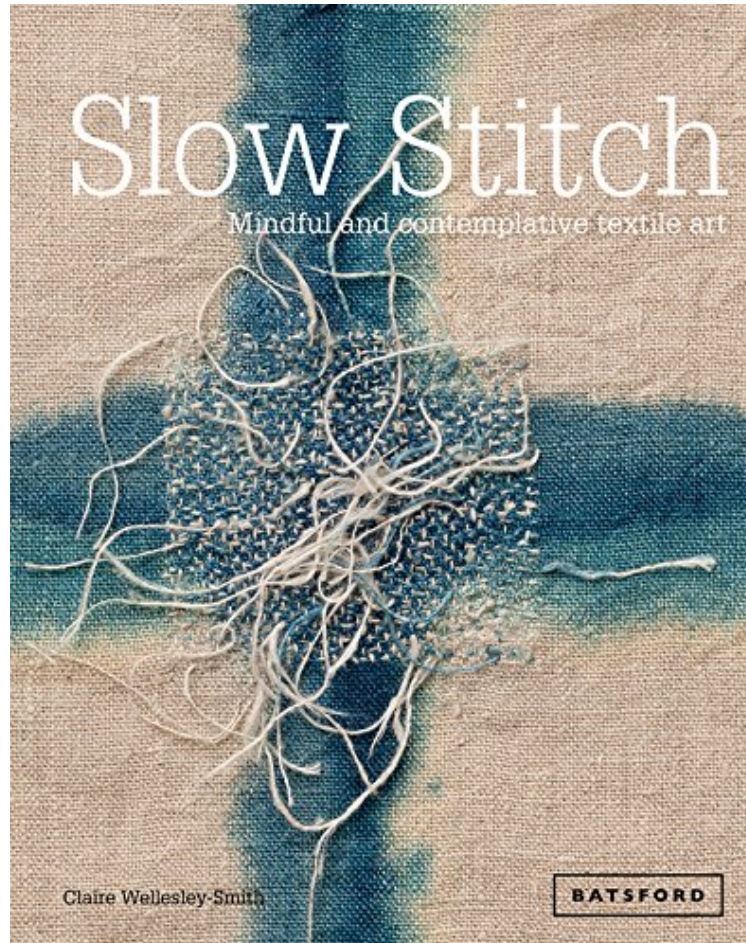


(Ebook free) Slow Stitch: Mindful and Contemplative Textile Art

## Slow Stitch: Mindful and Contemplative Textile Art

*Claire Wellesley-Smith*

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**Claire Wellesley-Smith : Slow Stitch: Mindful and Contemplative Textile Art** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slow Stitch: Mindful and Contemplative Textile Art:

95 of 96 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful images. Wonderful philosophical questions of production of "handmade" goods. By kdd This is an art book discussing philosophy with a little 'how to' for dyeing with plants and over-dyeing commercial, recycled fabric, very old linen fabric, lace and thread, as well as new floss threads in a very simple process. (Basically fill a canning jar with X and water, insert Y's plant's roots and leaves, then add small fabric, thread, floss, etc and set in sunny window with the top on for z's days or weeks.) Anyone who is very committed to acid-free, exacting, and archival processes may be disappointed. However, this book is fantastic, gorgeous, and put together beautifully as almost all of Batsford's books. It has given me some starting places to think through several questions rolling around in my head about what has been pulling me away from the sewing machine and toward handwork in my art. It has great photos of current fiber installations, plus close ups of beautiful handwork with collaged pieces incorporating old textiles with new. What I found the most fascinating is all the different

incredible textures one can make by repeating the same stitches in different densities over an area of layered, old soft fabrics that have been already sewn, used and loved-possibly for a few generations. And that's just the first 1/2 of the book, as I've not finished yet. I can slam through bedtime kindle novels embarrassingly fast. But this book not only encourages slow thoughtful stitching, but of slow thoughtful reading and thinking as well. It would be a shame to skim the images and ooh and ahh and then relegate it to a bookcase somewhere. I've not had another hour since pulling the book out of the box to sit in a comfortable chair with good lighting and a cup of tea/coffee/wine and finish the book. There is also some discussion about the new do it yourself and handmade sale website boom philosophies. It makes me wonder if we defeat the process by being caught producing 10 pieces of widgets as fast as possible to get out to 7 different customers ASAP. This is one of my favorite books bought in a while. 73 of 74 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Book! By CustomerLovely, wonder filled book. I am a long time reader of the blog this writer has maintained over a period of years. The blog was very good but this book is better than I could have hoped for. Claire has a unique way of touching the world through the art of stitch. Her words make us stop and think about our impact on the world and how we could make that better. The illustrations in this book are tactile and evocative - they make me want to put little stitches on every garment I own. The world needs more of Claire and her ideas and less of mass produced stuff. If you are trying to express yourself through stitch and dye then this book may inspire you to great things (possibly great small things). Hopefully this talented author will write more and leave a stitch trail for the rest of us to follow. 30 of 31 people found the following review helpful. I highly recommend this book. By Kathleen Goddu This is a must have book for anyone who enjoys hand stitching. It gives a very clear historical, personal and emotional perspective to slow- hand-stitching. It talks about Kantha and boro, Gees Bend quilts and the community that develops by groups stitching together. It provides clear stitch explanations and sample projects to practice. I highly recommend this book.

Sometimes less is more and quality is more important than quantity. That's true in textile art too, and this much-needed guide brings a meaningful, thoughtful, and sustainable approach to stitchery. See how to slow down and experience more joy in your craft by trying simple techniques based on traditional practice, reusing and reinventing materials, and limiting equipment. Richly illustrated throughout, this inspirational book will connect with those who seek a new way of working whether it's starting a stitch journal or joining a community of like-minded artists.

About the Author Claire Wellesley-Smith is a textile artist living and working in Yorkshire, UK. She teaches extensively, working in adult education, schools, community-based projects, museums, and galleries. Her workshops involve sustainable stitch, repurposed cloth, and traditional techniques.