

## Strange Material: Storytelling through Textiles

Leanne Prain

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**Leanne Prain : Strange Material: Storytelling through Textiles** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Strange Material: Storytelling through Textiles:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Anita StallsAfter only a quick look-through I can't wait to read in depth. Thought provoking and creativity stirring!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Karen HoffmanMore information than I expected.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful book!By MariiaWonderful book!!! Have found lots of inspirations and ideas for my works.One thing, I thought, it will be shipped faster, but it worth to wait for. Thank you.

Strange Material explores the relationship between handmade textiles and storytelling. Through text, the act of weaving a tale or dropping a thread takes on new meaning for those who previously have seen textiles quilts, blankets, articles of clothing, and more only as functional objects. This book showcases crafters who take storytelling off the page and into the mediums of batik, stitching, dyeing, fabric painting, knitting, crochet, and weaving, creating objects that bear their messages proudly, from personal memoir and cultural fables to pictorial histories and wearable fictions. Full-color throughout, the book includes chapters on various aspects of textile storytelling, from "Textiles of Protest, Politics, and Power" to "The Fabric of Remembrance"; it also includes specific projects, such as the well-known and profoundly moving Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, as well as poetry mittens, button blankets, and stitched travel diaries. Offbeat, poetic, and subversive, Strange Material will inspire readers to re-imagine the possibilities of creating through needle and fabric. Leanne Prain is the co-author (with Mandy Moore) of Yarn Bombing, now in its third printing, and the author of Hoopla: The Art of Unexpected Embroidery. A professional graphic designer, Leanne holds degrees in

creative writing, art history, and publishing.

Prain reminds us that the stories which fill our lives are not only spoken and written, but they are also made by hand and thread. These material stories are no less meaningful but they can suffer from under-acknowledgement. Perhaps they are so imbedded in daily life that they are easy to overlook? Whatever the reason, this book reminds us of the sheer variety of stories - new and old - told through textiles. Jessica Hemmings, editor of *In the Loop: Knitting Now* (Jessica Hemmings 2014-03-31) We all know that stories matter, and how their meanings intertwine with the material. But Leanne Prain's cunning and useful book has much more to say: We hear directly from a fascinating array of highly original creators whose handmade work expresses narratives, ideas, politics, humor, imagination, and memory. Even better, Prain prompts -- or invites -- the rest of us to participate, with intellectual nudges and practical projects designed to convert reader to storyteller. Edifying ... and inspirational. Rob Walker, co-founder of [SignificantObjects.com](http://SignificantObjects.com) and [Unconsumption.tumblr.com](http://Unconsumption.tumblr.com) (Rob Walker 2014-07-06) Whether the artists are being irreverent, capturing memories, speaking truths, creating political tools or building community, *Strange Material* makes a strong case that some stories are best told through craft. [Rabble.ca](http://Rabble.ca) ([Rabble.ca](http://Rabble.ca) 2015-02-26) The book strikes a balance in proposing a strategy and then providing a framework to use in thinking about the role of narrative in art. *Shuttle, Spindle Dyepot* (*Shuttle, Spindle Dyepot* 2015-05-21) This book is full of history and possibilities. It will prompt your own projects and even has templates for creating an 'Amelia mobile' out of felt, to play with the memory of groundbreaking pilot Amelia Earhart. *Herizons* (*Herizons* 2015-09-01) About the Author Leanne Prain: Leanne Prain is a knitter and the author of *Yarn Bombing: The Art of Knit Crochet Graffiti* (with Mandy Moore) and *Hoopla: The Art of Unexpected Embroidery*. A professional graphic designer, Leanne holds degrees in creative writing, art history, and publishing. She lives and crafts in Vancouver, BC.