

Harry Koll, Sabine Steinbock: Die Poesie des Einfachen. Eine Sammlung anatolischer Kelims.

Aachen 2015. 292 pages. With German and English texts and 131 pictures of kilims. Thread-stitching, hardcover, 30x30 cm.

Recently, *Die Poesie des Einfachen (The Poetry of Simple Things)* has appeared in a small edition displaying 131 Anatolian kilims from a private collection. Previously unpublished textiles are printed in addition to formerly well known ones, complete kilims as well as fragments.

The size of the book offers the opportunity to depict most of the flatweaves on double pages until up to 55 cm. This and additional photographs of details enable the reader to recognize structures of the weave and the changing play of color shades.

Aesthetic criteria for the entire choice of kilims depicted in this book, as well as for the material of each chapter reflecting the different kilim types, are given in the preface and the introductory texts to each chapter.

The sequence of plates is divided into chapters based on graphical aspects; each chapter is introduced by a short descriptive text.

The wide range of kilim types represented in this book shows -- besides spectacular early examples -- a number of completely unexpected material which contributes to the formerly discussed and previously published spectrum of the Anatolian kilim created in the 18th and early 19th century.

Remarkable, among different systems of ornament, the large number of kilim reflecting patterns based on fascinating rhythms of stripes, as well as of flatwoven items containing camel hair. Initial attention had been drawn on both types by the exhibition: *Kelim, Textile Kunst aus Anatolien* at the Deutsches Textilmuseum Krefeld, already arranged by the authors in 2002.

Conservation of Anatolian kilims has played an important rôle, too, during years of occupation with antique textiles by the authors. The book offers detailed advice on cleaning and conservation of textile fragments and underlines aspects of responsibility concerning the future preservation of cultural heritage.

The authors are not newcomers to this field; they have been able to collect experiences with museums' - exhibitions and accompanying publications in past and present time. This book bears a documentation of their individual points of view on collecting Anatolian kilims, and its text reflects their personal choice.

“Die Schönheit der einfachen Dinge” (The beauty of simple things), has served as a basic motto shaping the collection, published in this book.

Additionally, the book contains depictions offering an insight into five museums' exhibitions, where kilims of this book have been displayed.