

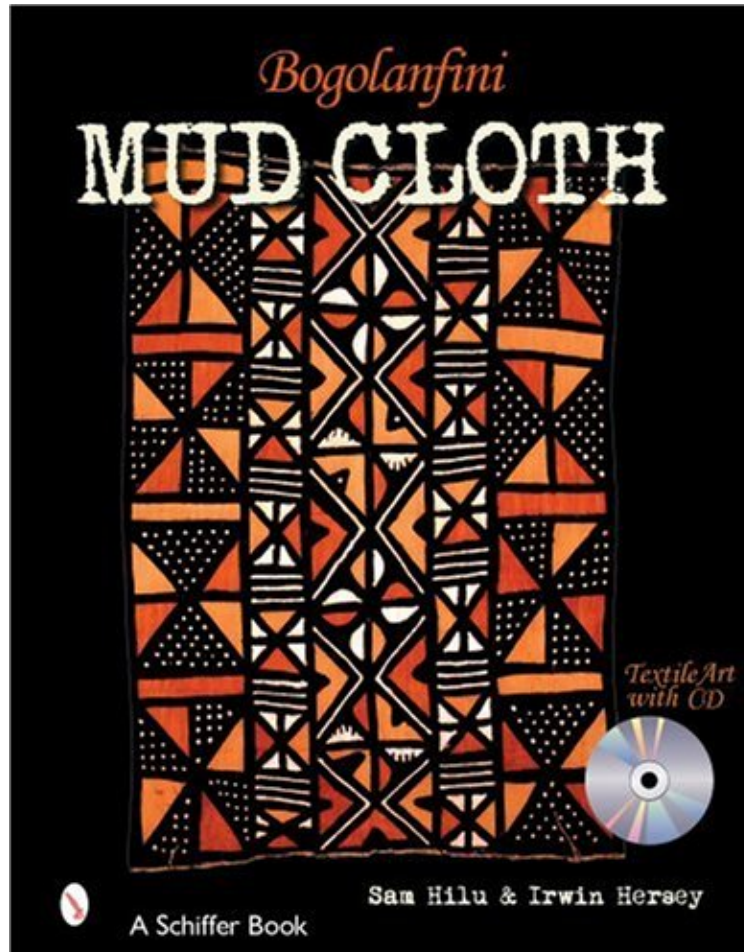
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Sam Hilu

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[Read free] Bogolanfini Mud Cloth (Schiffer Books)

## Bogolanfini Mud Cloth (Schiffer Books)

**Sam Hilu : Bogolanfini Mud Cloth (Schiffer Books)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bogolanfini Mud Cloth (Schiffer Books):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Book! By Shirley Sweet! I am very interested in fabric design, especially geometric patterns, earth tones with black lines separating the various shapes. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Nice big color pictures, but... By Beverly! This book contains an amazing number of full-color photos. The author, however, apparently, has nothing new to say, so refers to an article by Imperato in the journal African Arts, and to a book by Rovine. Those are the only references mentioned in the book. There is a brief exposition of the traditional process and a discussion of the profound changes to the art that have been induced by tourist trade. While the author mentions the use of bogolanfini by hunters and recently circumcised girls, there is no explanation of the rationale for these uses. It is mentioned that countries other than Mali produce mudcloth, but the Senufo mudcloths from Ivory Coast are not identified as such. For my purposes this is a very disappointing book. The art of Africa is much better understood by knowing about the context in which it is produced. 8 of 8 people found the following review

helpful. Needs more text including techniques and cultural context  
By Cindy Lou  
Great photos; book needs more text!  
book description should not say the "Bogolan" people of Mali, when in fact there is no such group...bogo is "mud" in the Bambara language; bogolan means mud-applied/decorated; bogolan fini is "mud-decorated cloth," made (usually but not always) by the Bambara people of Mali. The cloth is almost exclusively made nowadays for tourists, and has become a craft product to make money with. Thus many Malians who are not Bambara are painting cloth with mud (or dyeing cloth black and painting it with bleach to imitate mudcloth), with varying degrees of artistic merit. Some of it is well-done and exacting; some of it is crude and slap-dash. Bleach-painted "mudcloth" may be seen as an evolution of the art, valid in itself, but it might bother a purist! Tourists often don't know or care about the difference, which really doesn't matter, since if they like it and buy it, it helps someone in this very poor country. The book doesn't address these complex issues, but still it's a good intro to the subject.

This is an important resource for designers, textile lovers, and African art scholars. Over 200 color photographs beautifully illustrate the mud-cloth art of the Bogolan people in Mali, Africa. Their art form, in which geometric, abstract, and semi-abstract patterns are hand painted with mud dyes on hand woven cloth, has gained enormous popularity internationally. Informative text, by noted African art historian Irwin Hersey, examines the evolving cultural role of mud-cloth art, and gives technical information about traditional methods of its production. The mud-cloth designs featured in this book come from African artists, who have depicted scenes of African village life, and exciting geometric and abstract patterns in rich earth tones. The CD included with the book contains over 200 patterns, and is compatible with most graphic, design, and editing programs.

About the Author  
Sam Hilu travels the world in search of unique and desirable hand-crafted goods, and helps to adapt tribal arts to the popular market. Irwin Hersey is an internationally recognized authority on tribal arts and a renowned collector.