

# UUCS Microfinance Auction October 2020

## Silk Scarves from Laos

### About the Silk Scarves from Laos

Local artisans designed and wove these silk scarves by hand on wooden looms. Women weavers produced most of these scarves in villages like Ban Thaphosay which benefited from microloans provided by UUCS and our partner organization in Laos (2009-2012). Most were dyed using plant-based natural materials.

Silk weaving is a deeply rooted cultural tradition among many Lao ethnic groups. Most Lao village women learned the art of weaving from their mothers when they were girls.

Nearly all the scarves presented here for auction were initially purchased in January from Saobaan, a social business that partnered with the UUCS Microfinance Project a decade ago. Income generated by the initial sale of these scarves went directly back to the producers (Saobaan is now called Taibaan: [www.taibaancrafts.com](http://www.taibaancrafts.com)). Three additional scarves were produced by a Lao-owned company in Vientiane, the capital of Laos ([www.phaengmaigallery.com](http://www.phaengmaigallery.com)).

Proceeds from the sale of the scarves will directly benefit next year's Microfinance projects and continue our work to enable poor families to lift themselves out of poverty.



Scarf 3

### To bid on these scarves:

Email your bid to George Struble: [gstruble@willamette.edu](mailto:gstruble@willamette.edu)

Bid by scarf number, the highest amount you would be willing to pay. The selling price will be one increment above the second-highest bid. "Or" bids are accepted: you can bid \$xx for *either* of two (or more) scarves.

Bids close on Saturday, October 31, at 5:00 p.m.

After the close of bidding, buyers will be notified by email. Payment can be made by Paypal on the UUCS website or by mailing a check.

**OR:** you can BUY IT NOW, **any scarf for \$100**. Tell George: [gstruble@willamette.edu](mailto:gstruble@willamette.edu)

Your scarf will be delivered to you.



## Solid color scarves:

Approximate dimensions: 71"x14" (+/- 1")

Xebangfai aqua scarf is shorter (54");

two-tone fuschia scarf is longer (78").

Minimum bid: \$38

- 1 dok champa\* white
- 2 mocha
- 3 two-tone fuchsia
- 4 toast
- 5 saffron (2)
- 6 ~~Luang Prabang\* blue (2)~~ **SOLD**
- 7 Xebangfai\* aqua
- 8 silvery white



## Variable-color scarves

Minimum bid: \$40

- 9 tea-teak shimmer (sage and tan)  
69½"x14" **SOLD**
- 10 ~~gray-green shimmer~~  
63½"x15½" **SOLD**
- 11 Rose of Houaphan\*  
(pink to blue pastels)  
68"x14" **SOLD**



## Hanging scarves, *clockwise from upper left*

- 12 Red and black color block with mythic *mom* (deer-horse) figure **SOLD**  
72"x10½" min. bid: \$50
- 13 Red-tan-light green two-way stripe  
69½"x10" min. bid: \$40
- 14 Paksong\* berry stripe **SOLD**  
69½"x17½" min. bid: \$50
- 15 That Luang\* gold with diamonds  
(diamond pattern across each end)  
56½"x12" min. bid: \$40
- 16 Tan scarf with two large sections  
of *ikat* diamonds on rich tan background  
72"x17" min. bid: \$40



## Crinkly Scarves

71 1/2" x 18"

- |    |        |                                       |
|----|--------|---------------------------------------|
| 17 | orange | min. bid: \$40                        |
| 18 | gold   | <del>min. bid: \$40</del> <b>SOLD</b> |

### \* Lao Names Used to Describe Scarves

**Dok champa:** Frangipani (dok champa, in Lao) is the national flower of Laos.

**Houaphan:** The weavers of Houaphan province in northern Laos are well-known for their intricately patterned textiles.

**Luang Prabang** was the royal capital of the kingdom of Laos before 1975. It is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Paksong:** Berries, not normally grown in the tropics, grow in the higher elevation of Paksong, a rich agricultural plateau in southern Laos

**That Luang** is a large gold-covered Buddhist stupa in Vientiane. It is widely regarded as the most important monument in Laos.

**Xebangfai:** The Xebangfai River rises in the limestone karst mountains near the Laos-Vietnam border and flows across central Laos to the Mekong River and the border of Thailand and Laos.

*You too can look like these fashion models!*



Scarf 6



Scarf 12



Scarf 14



Scarf 18