

THRUMS

BOOKS

Oaxaca Stories in Cloth: A Book about People, Belonging, Identity, and Adornment

by Eric Mindling

Publication Date: October 1, 2016

ISBN: 978-0-9838860-8-2

LC#: 2016938994

\$36.95, trade paperback

280 pages

140 color photographs

10 X 10 trim size

Eric Mindling has been traveling the back roads of Oaxaca, Mexico, for over two decades. *Oaxaca Stories in Cloth* shows not only his love, but his respect for that dramatic geography and the people who have made it their home. More than 100 sensitive, intimate, full-color portraits of traditional people offer rare glimpses of Oaxacan village life. The companion vignettes are a beautiful blend of villagers' personal stories and Mindling's praise song to vanishing cultural traditions of Mexico.

You will hear the voices of *El Mago*, the Magician, whose tales conjure an ancient world where women, cloth, and land were one, and *La Coronela*, once a high-ranking colonel in the army, who now explains the evolution of Zapotec fashion. You will meet Viviana the candle maker, Juana the young embroiderer, Marina the palm weaver, and dozens more who all come to life in remarkable photographs. Mindling's images capture the details of specific moments in everyday life of Oaxaca today while conveying the history and enduring story of generations.

The book is arranged in two sections: *Living Threads* records the villages where traditional dress is alive and evolving; *Last Generation* presents those villages where the community fashion of generations will die with the remaining elders. Each section is a beautiful and significant account.

Eric Mindling has lived and worked in Oaxaca, Mexico, since 1992. He operates a tour company, Traditions Mexico, offering culturally intimate experiences for adventurous travelers. His 2010 book, *Fire and Clay*, a pioneering book about Oaxacan pottery, has been published in three languages. Eric was recognized in 2015 and 2016 for his photography, taking an award with London-based, Survival International, as well as being a 2015 finalist in the Alliance for Artisan Enterprise, sponsored by the U.S. State Department and the Aspen Institute.

Thrums Books are distributed by Independent Publishers Group in the U.S. (ipgbook.com) and by Search Press in the U.K. and Europe (searchpress.com).

For more information, please contact:

Karen Brock at 970.391.9711

karen.brock@thrumsbooks.com