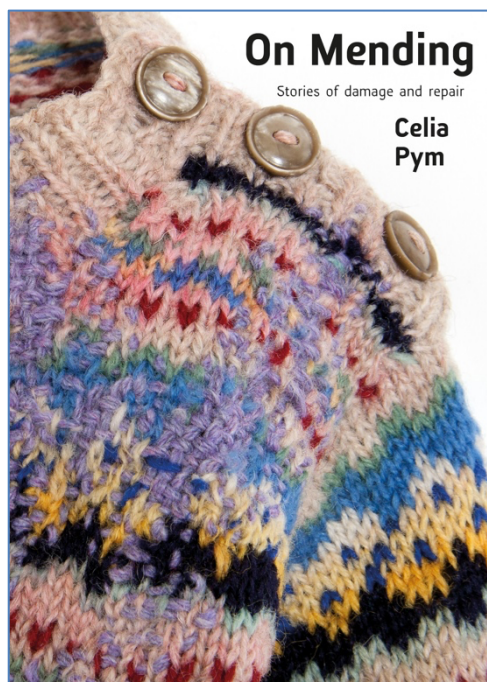


Embargoed until 30 Aug 2022



Title:	On Mending
Subtitle:	Stories of damage and repair
Authors:	Celia Pym
Release date:	Oct 2022
Publication date:	7 Nov 2022
ISBN:	978-1-912480-58-6
Dimensions:	170mm x 240mm
Extent:	96pp
Illustrations:	All colour photography
Binding:	Paperback
Price:	£19.99
Series:	Sustainability, Crafts
BIC/Thema Code:	VSZ/AFW

Sale points

The artist Celia Pym lives in London and has been exploring damage and repair in textiles since 2007. Working with garments that belong to individuals as well as items in museum archives, she has broad experience with stories of damage, from moth holes to accidents with fire.

Textile language crops up in the body: mending language works on the body as well as on garments. We describe the body as mending after illness or injury – ‘I’m on the mend,’ someone might say if they’re feeling better. You might hear a doctor or nurse describe a broken bone as ‘mending well’, or broken bones are often described as knitting back together as the break heals.

Pym is interested in exploring the varied evidence of damage, and how repair draws attention to the places where garments and cloth wear down and grow thin. These personal tales document the intimate damage caused to clothing by everyday use and the parallels with the consequent wear and tear on the body.

Mending work builds on what is left behind. It’s not replacing, or remaking, or cutting apart and putting back together, instead it is slow work that makes things better. It conjures an unhurried recovery or change. In textiles, the act of mending wear-and-tear, thinning cloth or accidental damage builds on what already exists, anchoring threads and yarn into the robust healthy fabric and filling in the holes or reinforcing the areas that are weak. ‘Darning is small acts of care,’ she says, ‘and paying close attention.’

Celia Pym

Celia Pym has a BA in Visual and Environmental Studies, specialising in sculpture, from Harvard University, US and an MA in Constructed Textiles from the Royal College of Art, London. She is also a trained nurse, where she honed her caring skills. Her work has been exhibited most recently in Keep Being Amazing, Firstsite, Colchester, Essex (2022), Say Less, Herald Street, London, 2022 and Eternally Yours, Somerset House, London 2022.

Publisher Quickthorn, Elm Cottage, Dark Lane, Chalford GL6 8QD

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Waste Age, Design Museum, London (2021), and On Happiness: Joy + Tranquillity, Wellcome Collection, London (2021). **Siblings**, Trading Museum, CDG, Paris (2020), **Sewing Box for the Future**, V&A Dundee (2020-21) and **Material Matters**, Textilmuseum, St Gallen (2020). In 2017 she was shortlisted for the Woman's Hour Craft Prize and the inaugural Loewe Craft Prize. She is an Associate Lecturer in Textiles at the Royal College of Art in London.

Description

A fascinating insight into the work of a pre-eminent craftsperson, *On Mending* was inspired by Pym's experience of hearing intimate stories from people's lives, of loss and love as a result of mending the holes in their clothes. Not a 'how-to' book, this is rather an in-depth look into the damage that we do, as manifested by our outer layers, our clothes.

Chapters

Introduction

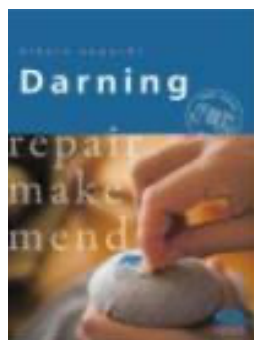
Stories

- Roly's Sweater
- Elizabeth's Cardigan
- Hope's Sweater
- The Norwegian Sweater
- Bill's Sweater
- The Gold Cape
- Lara and Lolu's backpacks
- Siri's Sweater
- Vivien Leigh's Suit
- Freddie's Family Rugs

Readership

Sustainability, stitchers, crafters, teachers, designers

Editor's notes



This is the fifth publication from **Quickthorn**, originally an imprint for Hawthorn Press and now a new independent publisher for practical books about making and sustainability. Inspiring, manageable and quick to read, subjects will include sustainable crafts and making for wellbeing. Mindful of our impact on the environment, Quickthorn will be commissioning books with an emphasis on recycling, mending and re-use. The first Quickthorn book was ***Darning: Repair, make, mend*** by Hikaru Noguchi, a cult book in Japan now available in English. Other Quickthorn books include ***Finding Quiet Strength: Emotional Intelligence, Embodied Awareness*** by Judith Kleinman and ***When Words Are Not Enough: Creative responses to grief***, by Jane Harris and Jimmy Edmonds.

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