

# Traditional Weavers of Guatemala: Their Stories, Their Lives



<b>Pages:</b>	152
<b>Published:</b>	September 1st 2015 by Thrums Books
<b>Genre:</b>	Art
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<b>ISBN13:</b>	9780983886075
<b>ISBN10:</b>	0983886075
<b>Goodreads Rating:</b>	4.88

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Against the backdrop of Guatemala, this book presents portraits of artisans working in the ancient traditions of the Maya paired with insights into the creation of the textiles and the events that have affected their work. Weaving, spinning, and basket making have sustained the Maya economically and culturally against the pressures of change and a 36-year civil war that decimated their population. Their persistence in continuing traditional art has created some of the loveliest, most colorful textiles the world has ever known. Artisans share their personal histories, hopes, and dreams along with the products of their hands and looms. Their stories show determination in the face of unimaginable loss and hardship which instill an appreciation for the textiles themselves and for the strong people who create them.