



singinghands.org

handmade • nonprofit • fair trade

2015 Fall Catalog



Embroidered Multi-Use Bag

Handwoven, Hand-Dyed and Embroidered

Embroidered make-up/document/pencil/phone bag with magnetic closure. Cloth is hand-woven on a manual loom and dyed in indigo. This type of embroidery usually decorates ceremonial head wraps. Do not wash. Size: 8" x 4". \$20. (M-1)



Flower Multi-Use Bag

Handwoven, Hand-Dyed and Screen-Printed

Protect your little treasures in handmade indigo-dyed cloth bags with beautiful motifs that are unique to the Dimen village. Do not wash. 8" x 4". \$17. (M-2)





Fold-Over Bag

*Handwoven, Hand-Dyed,
Handmade Chinese Frog Button*

The sheerness of the off-white side is complemented the richest black-purple indigo tones on the inside. Screen-printed in blue with either a dragon or Chinese character that means double happiness, often used in expressing lasting relationships and love. Multi-use for the small items you need to carry around like your wallet, phone, keys and more.

Do not wash. 7.5" x 7.75". \$22. (B-1)



Flower-Belt Messenger Bag

Handwoven and Hand-Dyed

Walking through the village in the sweltering heat of the summer, you will see Kam girls sitting in a shade with a back-strap loom tied to their backs weaving elaborate flower belts for their dowry. This messenger bag highlights the intricately hand-woven flower belt featuring geometric flowers. Small pocket on inside for wallet or phone. 8.7" x 12". \$40. (B-2)





Carry-All Tote

*Handwoven, Hand-Dyed
and Screen-Printed*

These totes are sturdy and comfortable at the same time. Natural buff or indigo blue hand-woven fabric. Pocket inside. Hand wash only. Off-white with green flowers (T-1) \$10; Off-white with blue flower (T-2) \$10; Marbled indigo with Bird (T-3) \$12; Marbled indigo with Dragon (T-4) \$12.

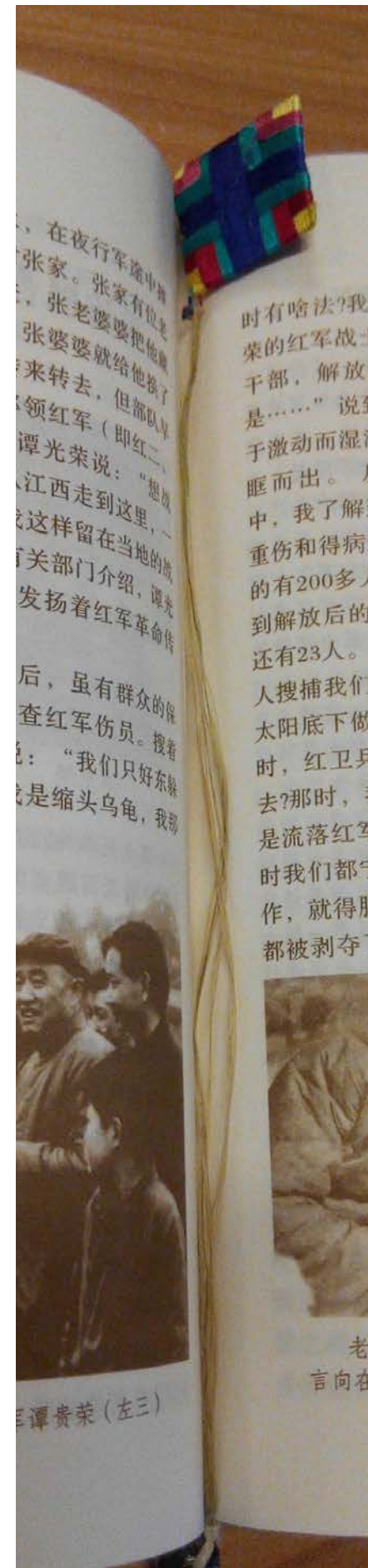




Christmas Ornament

Hand-Wrapped Silk

Decorate your home, car mirrors or brighten up your Christmas tree with unique handmade ornaments featuring stylized crosses. The ornaments are traditionally used by the Kam people to decorate festive aprons. Colors and styles vary. 2" x 2". \$10. (O-001)



Bookmark

Hand-Wrapped Silk

Square ornaments hand-wrapped with colorful silk threads. 10" hemp tied with a wood bead. Colors and styles vary. 1" x 1". \$5.50. (O-004)



Earrings

Hand-Wrapped Silk

Square ornaments hand-wrapped with colorful silk threads. Colors and styles vary. 1" x 1". \$8. (A-1)

Phone Charm

Hand-Wrapped Silk

Square ornaments hand-wrapped with colorful silk threads. Colors and styles vary. 1" x 1". Dust plug for audio jacks on smart phones (O-002). Loop for traditional cellphones with metal hoops (O-003). \$5.50.





Gold Flower Greeting Card

Hand-Made Paper

Gold flower screen printed on inside and smooth writing paper with golden fleck insert. Bound with hand-twisted twill. Blank inside. Envelope included. 4.3" x 7.9". \$5. (S-003)



Leaf Greeting Card

Leaf-Printed on Hand-Made Paper

Greeting card with vibrant leaf prints on handmade mulberry paper, mounted on craft board. Button closure. Blank inside. Envelope included. 6.7" x 4.3". \$4.50. (S-002)



meet the Za:
tradition, quality and chick



Screen-Printed Card

Leaf-Printed on Hand-Made Paper

Greeting card with vibrant motives screen printed on hand-made mulberry paper. Blank inside. Motifs vary and colors. Envelope included. 6.7" x 4.3". \$3.75. (S-001)



Produced by small family workshops, *Singing Hands* products support the traditional way of living in minority villages in remote areas of China. Following the fair trade model, all profits go directly to the artisans who decide how to invest them in their community. By purchasing our products, you allow artisans to work from home. They do not have to leave anymore for faraway factories that exploit migrant workforce to make ends meet.



Rooted in local aesthetics, the products merge contemporary design with tradition. They are hand-crafted from local materials with utmost care, each piece getting an individualized treatment by the artisan as she reflects on the unique properties of the material. The fabric is handmade on a traditional wooden loom and then hand-dyed with local plants following the traditional and often time-consuming procedures that have been passed down from mother to daughter for centuries.



As a result of the weaving and dyeing process, the fabric is very strong and durable. A subtle fragrance of herbs lingers in the fibers. As part of their tradition, the artisans use local sources, and reuse and recycle materials whenever possible.

The cooperative is supported by Singing Hands Student Agency at University of the Pacific in Stockton, California. The agency coordinates US sales and oversees product development.



About Singing Hands

Elderly artisans from Kam minority villages deep in the mountains of Guizhou province, called affectionately za, have taken on contemporary design to help preserve their cultural heritage and help their communities make sustainable living.

The average yearly wage in the remote Kam villages is \$1000, well below the average for even rural China. Young and middle-aged people often seek employment in faraway factories to help ends meet.

Thanks to your support, younger Kam have a reason to learn traditional techniques and stay with their families.

Find out more about our story at singinghands.org.