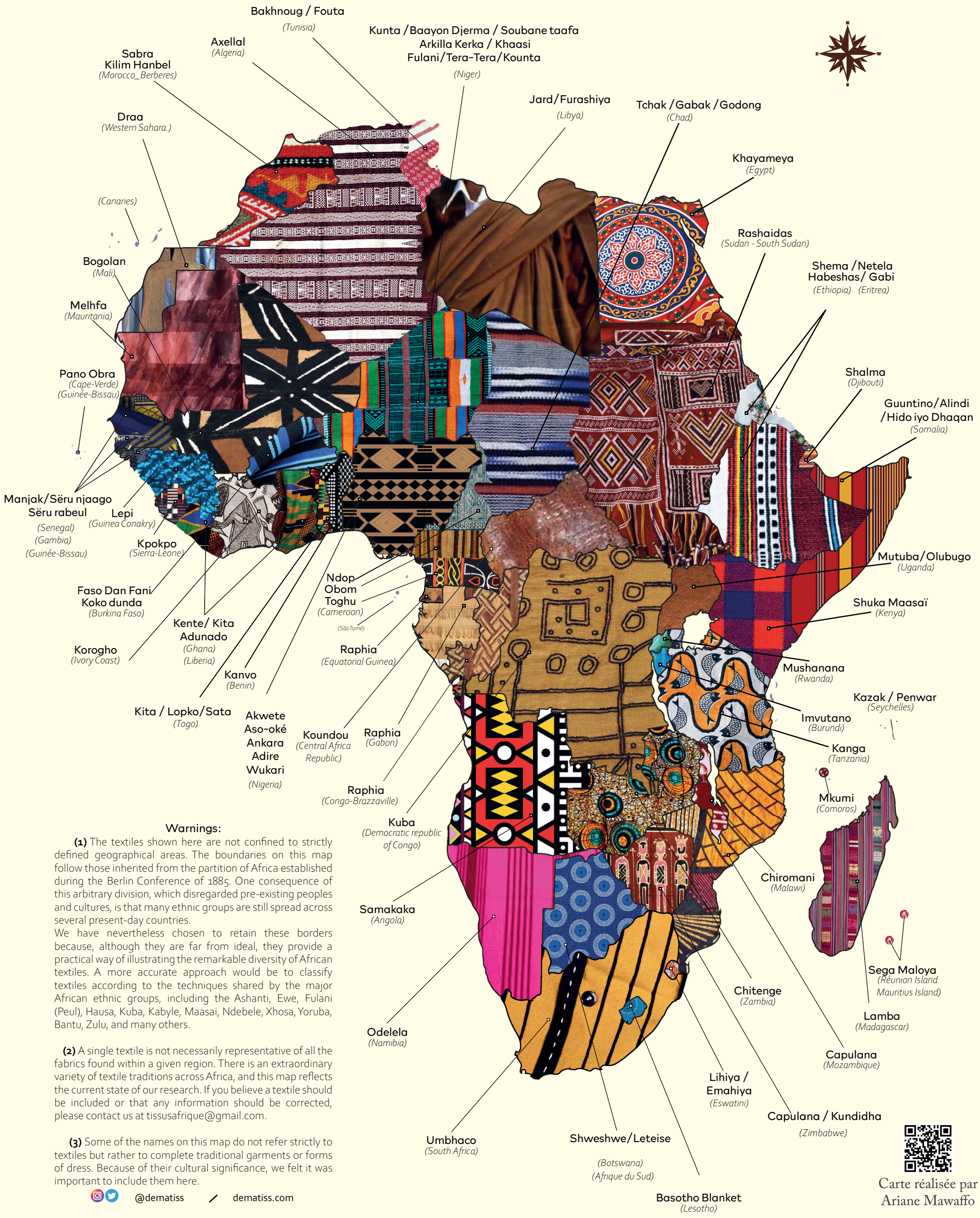
AFRICA(N) FABRICS MAP



Carte réalisée par
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Warnings:

(1) The textiles shown here are not confined to strictly defined geographical areas. The boundaries on this map follow those inherited from the partition of Africa established during the Berlin Conference of 1885. One consequence of this arbitrary division, which disregarded pre-existing peoples and cultures, is that many ethnic groups are still spread across several present-day countries.
We have nevertheless chosen to retain these borders because, although they are far from ideal, they provide a practical way of illustrating the remarkable diversity of African textiles. A more accurate approach would be to classify textiles according to the techniques shared by the major African ethnic groups, including the Ashanti, Ewe, Fulani (Peul), Hausa, Kuba, Kabyle, Maasai, Ndebele, Xhosa, Yoruba, Bantu, Zulu, and many others.

(2) A single textile is not necessarily representative of all the fabrics found within a given region. There is an extraordinary variety of textile traditions across Africa, and this map reflects the current state of our research. If you believe a textile should be included or that any information should be corrected, please contact us at tissusafrique@gmail.com.

(3) Some of the names on this map do not refer strictly to textiles but rather to complete traditional garments or forms of dress. Because of their cultural significance, we felt it was important to include them here.

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