Contemporary ryer (plural of rya) still employ the pile structure of the ancient ryer but may use more elaborate design elements. Early ryer were discovered in Norwegian ship burials, evidence of the great respect and value of the magnificent textiles. Ryer are passed from one over the years as prized family heirlooms and continue to enrich Scandinavian life, honoring a rich past in handicraft. Today, ryer have taken their place in the world of contemporary textile art.