



Kaparamip robe

Date

late 19th century

Primary Maker

Unrecorded Ainu artist

Medium

Cotton, cotton appliqué and embroidery, indigo

Description

A: A flat coat with tapered sleeves is decorated with a white cotton, cut and appliquéd onto a dark (striped)

ground cloth, creating a curvilinear and symmetrical pattern, which covers the whole surface of the robe. The effect created is of three dark four-sided star shapes descending down the center-back, with (dark) curving lines describing butterfly-like shapes. The collar, lapels, cuffs and hem are edged with a dark hand-spun cotton. And the sleeves are given a slightly different look by the use of an under-fabric which has a different pattern from that of the rest of the coat. The overall design is reinforced by a single line of chain-stitch cotton embroidery which echoes the linear elements of the appliqué. Color B: White, Dark (indigo) blue and black Technique C: Plain weave, appliqué and moreu* embroidery. (Moreu means quiet or small curve in the Ainu language and refers to the curving design of the embroidery.

Dimensions

48 × 50 in. (121.92 × 127 cm)