

Basic Detail Report



Embroidery

Date

1925

Primary Maker

Policarpio Valencia

Medium

Wool, cotton

Description

For this embroidery, Valencia repurposed a commercial trade blanket with a double-faced weave in which the pattern repeats on both sides, but the colors are reversed.

He used the blanket stripes to organize his stitched figures, floral shapes, and lines of text. He also drew inspiration from the woven design, tracing and stylistically adapting the Maltese Cross and four-leaf motifs. During Valencia's lifetime, as the nation's borders expanded across the continent, the Southwest became increasingly interconnected with the United States. While this development altered local cultures, the growing awareness of Southwestern artistic traditions also influenced what was being woven in East and West Coast factories for nationwide trade. Valencia may have been attracted to this imported blanket because it included design elements he recognized and appreciated, such as the Maltese cross, a symbol with important significance to local Catholic tradition. Valencia would have been familiar with this motif, having seen it every time he walked through the doors of the Santa Cruz de la Cañada Church (now Holy Cross Church). Transcription: April 2, 1925, I started putting white thread on this blanket on which you will see a certain collection of animals, some of which are already rare for our times and others which [still] exist now for domestic use, but I have pictured those animals here to be remembered. Those [animals] that served mankind in the past were the buffalo, the horse, the donkey, the mule and the ox, the sheep and goat, the bison (with its meat that sustained the people). The donkey the mule, carrying loads of commercial goods on its back to trade, traveling over long distances and over mountains. They were mishandled or mistreated with a whip. The ox pulling in front with a pole tied to its horns. This was a yoke. Two [oxen] were bound to the yoke, and they were driven with a cattle prod. This was a pointed stick. The man on his horse, with his courage and a lance in his hand, made use of the buffalo. And the sheep and the goat, with their hair and hide, they would clothe their masters, and, with their meat and milk, fed the people. August 20, 1925, these blue letters give you the names of animals depicted on this blanket. By paying close attention, you will find bison, bears, wolves, deer, pronghorn, lion, birds, camel, pig, coyotes, foxes, skunks, cattle, oxen, calves, donkeys, mule hybrid, sheep, and goats. Also plow and winnowing screen, handbarrow, implements used in earlier times. stag, doe, pronghorn buck, pronghorn doe, donkey, cow, pig, female donkey, little donkey winnowing screen plow cattle prod handbarrow bison, wolf, nanny goat, billy goat, sheep, hens she-mule, little lamb, ox, lion, bear, camel, little mule, donkey, coyote, cow,

calf, he-mule Policarpio Valencia Transcripción: Abril 2 del año de 1925[,] comencé a poner hilo blanco en esta cobija en la cual verá ud cierta colección de animales[,] de los cuales ya barios son raros en esta época y otros existen ahora en uso doméstico[,] pero llo he fi gurado ayi animales para recuerdo fotoro[.] Los que prestaron serbisio al hombre anteriormente fueron el síbolo[,] el caballo[,] el buro[,] la mula y el buey[,] y la borrega y cabra[,] el sibolo con su carne surtia la nasion. El buro[,] la mula[,] con carga en el espinaso cambiando objetos comerciales de distansia muy larga y por sieras caminaban[.] Y manejados o tratados mal con garote[.] Y el bu[e]y jalando primero con un palo atado a los cuernos[.] Era llugo[.] Dos priendian al lluso[,] y les picaban con un topil[.] Era una bara puntiada[.] El hombre en el caballo[,] con su balor y una lansa en su mano[,] asi a uso del sibolo[.] Y la borega y la cabra[,] con su pelo y cuero[,] y vestian a sus amos y con su carne y leches[,] se alimenta la nasion[.] Agosto 10 de 1925[,] esta letra asul le da a ud los nombres de animales que se allan fi gurados en esta cobija[.] Poniendo buen cuidado[,] allaran sibolo[,] osos[,] lobos[,] bennados[,] berendos[,] lion[,] abes[,] camello[,] serdo[,] collotes[,] soras[,] sorio[,] bacas[,] buelles[,] beseros[,] buros[,] bestias mulares[,] boregas[,] y cabras[.] Tambien arado y criba[,] pariguela[,] material que se usaba antes[.] benado[,] benada[,] verendo[,] berenda[,] buro[,] vaca[,] serdo[,] vuba[,] vurito criba arado topil pariguela sibolo[,] lobo[,] cabra[,] cabromeso[,] vereda[,] gayinas mula[,] boregito [,] vuelle[,] lion[,] oso[,] camello[,] machito[,] buro[,] collote[,] vaca[,] vesero[,] macho Policarpio Valencia

Dimensions

55 7/8 × 63 3/4 in. (142 × 162 cm)