

Basic Detail Report



Embroidery

Date

1927

Primary Maker

Policarpio Valencia

Medium

Wool, cotton

Description

Valencia used a handwoven Rio Grande blanket for the foundation of this artwork. The blanket is woven with handspun wool wefts and commercial 4-ply cotton warp threads, construction details that suggest a creation date between the 1880s and 1920s. Like most blankets of its type, this one is two symmetrical pieces joined by a center seam. The two sides, however, do not match as was typical. It appears Valencia may have flipped one of

the sides to intentionally disrupt the traditional symmetry. Valencia's embroidered text begins, "On December 15, 1926 I put these letters / for everyone to see." At the bottom, he provided March 10, 1927 as the completion date, meaning it took him approximately three months to create this work. He also humorously concluded his message, "I'm not cheap with words." Transcription: On December 15, 1926, I put these letters for everyone to see. Let us look at what the world is [really] like. We must look out for ourselves. We must not be caught off guard and go towards evil. For we have a Shepherd who always walks with us and shows us the way. We must not take the other path. Let us put aside all the fighting, envy, hypocrisy. The three things are not only very bad but pervasive. If you want to see their effects, here I will take note of them. Appearances deceive. Envy is punished. Whether I say it or not, no one can deny this. And the uproar [it causes] serves to start the fight that I hereby call attention to. And I encourage everyone who touches this writing to carefully examine it, and to see if its explanation is true or false, among other harmful things. Here I will explain pride and arrogance. You cannot separate the two. Both were curable since the beginning of evil. No wonder they ranked them first in pure madness. Secondly, greed. That we will not be cheated is the major cause and will have no end until the moment of Last Judgement. Thirdly, lust. Generally, this occurs as a vice that drips like honey. If you don't curb it, it will change the color of your character with hidden effects more bitter than bile. Fourth place, wrath makes man into a tyrant to inferiors, which is already typical of animals, because it is not human affection. Gluttony has a scale, and to avoid its effects, temperance should be used. Envy brings with it crookedness and punishment. Sloth is a disease as bad as death, so there is no place for the lazy in any society. Let us move on to another important issue. All those living on this earth are constantly wanting to outdo one

another. They continue their perseverance, and the result will be that neither one nor the other will succeed if the time comes to lose hope. Because time is a good friend, and everyone has a chance. And I'm going to explain to you the world that we want; the world is shaped like a ball and easy to roll. This is how it is in the evil case where people in the world rise and fall. Each one, exercising their free will, chooses their own path and will have to go down it. Because life is very short and cannot be extended on this earth. There are people who want us to hold on, but that can never happen. There's a limit, and you cannot pass it. Because He who has the key does not want to trust those who believe in extending life here on earth. It cannot be proven, because it is a general belief, and the laws protect it. The people of the world cannot be wiped out like fish in the sea. The big one eats the little one and it is a world war. Others also insist on wanting there to be equality, and with there being big ones and little ones, that is a necessity. We all have what we have coming to us in this world. Everyone is entitled to what he deserves and that's enough. In this world, there is no equal nor anyone who can raise his finger alone. The Trinity shaped a true God to be among the living. In our time, no one wants to be the slave. We all want to be masters, and we always go after everything we want. Everyone should know their size in life, otherwise they will go through it looking for a fight. I don't know why. You cannot revise this painting knowing that no one can change it. That's how it is and that's how it will be. I'm not cheap with words. March 10, 1927
Policarpio Valencia Santa Cruz, NM Transcripción: Diciembre 15 de 1926[,] me puse a poner estas letras a di... disposesion de todos[.] Beamos lo que es el mundo[.] Nos debemos de cuidar[.] No nos pesquen descuidados y nos ballamos al mal[.] Pues tenemos un pastor que siempre anda con nosotros y este nos trajo un camino[.] No debemos huir por otro[.] Dejemos los alborotos[,] envidia[,] el proquesia[.] Las tres cosas son muy malas mas si son endema[.] Si así quieren ver sus efectos[,] aquí los voy a notar las[.] Apariencias engañan[.] Y la envidia se castiga[.] Nadyen lo puede dudar esto sin que yo lo diga[.] Y los alboros los sirven para prensipiar la riña aquí llamo la atención[.] Y encargo a todo le torque en este escrito y fuere que esa mi ni con cuidado y vea su explicación si es cierto o es engaño y otras cosas que ase daño[.] Aquí los voy a explicar el orgullo y la soberbia[.] No se podan apartar pues los dos[.] Fueron curables desde el principio del mal[.] Y con rason la pusieron primero en loca pura[.] Y en segundo la abaricia[.] Que no nos ganaran mal pues la mayoría causa y no se podrá acabar hasta llegar el momento dando la cuenta final[.] En tercero la lujuria[.] Esta cura general es bísio que estila miel[.] Si no se le pone freno cambia de color la piel y otros efectos ocultos mas amargan que la hiel[.] Cuarto lugar la ira esta hace al hombre un tirano de inferiores y de cuales la lleva es propia de animales porque no es afecto humano[.] La gula tiene balanza y para evitar sus efectos sea de uso de la templanza[.] Y la envidia tiene consigo su tóxico. Pereza es enfermedad tan mala como la muerte así no cabe el yñerte en ninguna sociedad[.] Pasaremos a otro asunto que también es importancia[.] Los bibientes en el mundo todos beben con costumbre queriendo uno ser mas que otro[.] Siguen su perseverancia y el resultado sera que ni uno ni otro se alcancen si a llegar el momento de perder la esperanza[.] Porque el tiempo es buen amigo y para todos tiene chance[.] Y del mundo que se dice que les voy a explicar[.] el mundo figura bola y muy fácil para rodar[.] Así es en el mal caso las donde subir y bajar las criaturas en el mundo[.] Usa de su libertad cada una acaba su rumbo y en el tendrán que pasar[.] Porque la vida es muy corta y no se puede alargar en el mundo[.] Hay quien se atreve a querer nos la aragar pero eso nunca podrán[.] Pusieron una medida y no se puede pasar[.] Porque el que tiene la llave y a nadie la quiere figurarlos que creyeron a la larga la vida aquí en este mundo[.] No se les pondrá pribar pues es creencia es general y las leyes la

protegen[.] Y no se puede acabar los vivientes en el mundo como peses en el mar[.] El grande se come al chico y es una guerra mundial[.] Otros existen tambien en querer que haya igualdad y abierto grandes y chicos eso es un necesidad[.] Las criaturas en el mundo todos tenemos la norma[.] Lo que a cada uno le toca y con eso se conforma en el mundo no hay igual ni quien pueda alzar el dedo solo[.] Aquellas tres personas formando un dios verdadero sabe que lla en los bien- Es[.] En la época que estamos nadie quiere ser el pion[.] Todos queremos ser amos[,] y siempre andamos atrás de todo lo que deseamos[.] Dicida uno conosiera su tamaño en esta vida de otro modo la pasara y no buscando la riña[.] No se porque [...] No se puede rebiese esa pintura sabiendo que Nadie puede añadir[.] Asi es y asi sera[.] Un codo no soi de la escritura yo[.] marzo 10 de 1927 el Policarpio Valencia Santa Cruz N.M. TDNO

Dimensions

59 1/16 × 41 5/16 in. (150 × 105 cm)