To Dye For Ikats from Central Asia

On view March 24–July 29, 2018, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery

Media only:	Media website:
Megan Krefting 202.633.0271; kreftingm@si.edu	freersackler.si.edu/press
	<pre>@FreerSackler #ToDyeFor</pre>

With their vivid designs, ikats are among the most distinct fabrics produced in Central Asia. They are notable for their complex technique: bundles of threads are patterned by repeated binding and dyeing before they are woven. Not surprisingly, the fabrics' brilliance has attracted contemporary designers, most notably Oscar de la Renta, who in 2005 included ikats in his collections. Since then, ikat motifs have become ubiquitous—from jeans, T-shirts, and socks to carpets, sofa covers, and bedding.

To Dye For brings together about thirty of the finest historical Central Asian ikat hangings and coats from the Freer|Sackler collections, donated by Guido Goldman, as well as a number of Oscar de la Renta's iconic creations. The aim is to explore the original use of these remarkable fabrics and the enduring appeal of their extraordinary designs.

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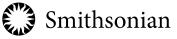


Complete loom length Central Asia, 19th century Silk velvet Gift of Guido Goldman S2004.78



Wall hanging Central Asia, 1875–1900 Silk, cotton, and wool Gift of Guido Goldman S2004.82

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Woman's robe (*munisak*)

Central Asia, 1850–1875 Silk velvet Gift of Guido Goldman S2004.94



Woman's robe (*munisak*) Central Asia, 1850–75 Silk velvet Gift of Guido Goldman S2004.96



Woman's robe Central Asia, late 19th century Silk, cotton, and wool Gift of Guido Goldman S2005.13



Woman's robe Central Asia, 1800–50 Silk, cotton, and wool Gift of Guido Goldman S2005.15

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Woman's robe (*munisak***)** Central Asia, 1850–1900 Silk, cotton, and wool Gift of Guido Goldman S2005.16



Wall hanging Uzbekistan, Bukhara or Samarqand, mid-19th century Silk and cotton Gift of Guido Goldman S2006.21



Wall hanging Uzbekistan, Samarqand, 1840–75 Silk and cotton Gift of Guido Goldman S2006.20



Wall hanging Uzbekistan, Samarqand, mid-19th century Silk and cotton Gift of Guido Goldman S2006.30

Wall hanging Uzbekistan, 1850–99 Silk and cotton Gift of Guido Goldman S2006.31



Evening ensemble Polychrome silk embroidery and silk taffeta; pants of silk shatung Designed by Oscar de la Renta Balmain Haute Couture, spring/summer 1997 collection Collection of Annette de la Renta ELS2018.6.1



Ikat-patterned gown Silk and wool jacquard Oscar de la Renta Collection, fall 2013 collection ELS2018.5.1



Julkhyrs (sleeping carpet) Uzbekistan, Samarqand (?), late 19th century Wool Richard Isaacson Collection, ELS2018.4

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