

Basic Detail Report



Mola

Date

ca. 2013

Primary Maker

Diego Gonzalez

Medium

Dyed cotton and thread

Description

A Guna couple wearing traditional clothing and going about their daily household chores is the subject of this mola. The artist used appliqué and reverse appliqué on multiple layers of fabric to distinguish the various parts of the body and clothing by way of color segmentation. Traditional geometric designs were incorporated and used to create a room-like structure; probably the kitchen area given that the two individuals are seated on low stools around a large pot. Although these additions were hand stitched in various colors, the size and shape of each design creates uniformity and builds upon the small inset triangles used as filler in the background. Patterned stitches and feathers decorate the band of the man's fedora to indicate the traditional mola-patterned headband men wear during rituals, an example of which is included in this exhibition. The wavy designs on the woman's blouse reflect earlier mola designs that were inspired by brain coral. In addition, the mola maker went so far as to embroider winis, or beaded bracelets, on the forearms and ankles of the woman, and even a gold septum ring. On the lap of the woman is a smaller mola with geometric designs that she is working on as she tends to her daily responsibilities. The multitude of colors, highly detailed embroidery, and lack of empty space mark this mola as exceptional.

Dimensions

Overall: 12 7/8 × 15 3/4 in. (32.7 × 40 cm)