Loom-width - Puffed Blocks

Object: Loom-width

Place of origin: Japan (made)

Date: 1979 (made)

Artist/Maker: Arai, Junichi, born 1932 - died 2017 (designer)

Comme des Garçons (designed for)

NUNO Corporation (manufacturer)

Materials and Techniques: Jacquard woven cotton and polyester, and elastic

Credit Line: Given by Sudo Reiko

Museum number: T.148-1990

Gallery location: In Storage

Public access description

Junichi Arai was born in Kiryu in 1932 in the centre of Japan’s traditional weaving area. Arai is an acknowledged leader in the field of experimental weaving technology, combining traditional and futuristic, often with unexpected qualities. He worked closely with the fashion designer Issey Miyake in the 1980s.

This piece is a multi-textured monochrome patchwork quilt, in which threads of different weights and tensions create a pucker and warp effect. It is a successful combination of synthetic and natural materials, with elasticity and soft textures. The fabric is a simple plain weave with a variation in the individual squares deriving from the subtly different personalities of the yarns used.

Descriptive line

Loom-width of jacquard woven cotton and polyester 'Puffed Blocks', designed by Junichi Arai for Comme des Garçons, made by NUNO, Japan, 1979

Physical description

Loom-width of white and beige woven cotton and polyester, and with elastic. With a puffed block design.

Dimensions

Length: 332 cm, Width: 68 cm

Museum number

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Object history note

Registered File number 1988/305.

NUNO was founded in 1984 as a commercial venture dealing with all stages of textile creation: planning designing, manufacturing and sales. It is a small company which endeavours to combine the best of the past, by drawing on traditional Japanese aesthetics and creative processes, and combining them with modern technologies.

URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O141410/puffed-blocks-loom-width-arai-junichi/