



Piece of the Month 2017

Month	Description	Image
January	<p>Ceremonial Huipil Patzicía, Chimaltenango Mayan Language: Kaqchikel Ixchel Museum Collection: MI-05163</p> <p>This is a ceremonial Huipil made of two canvases, woven on a waist loom with cotton cuyuscate, mercerized cotton and silk. In this huipil, the color red predominates. It also presents the symbol of a dog, which is associated with the name of the Patzi'a community, which means water dog.</p>	 <p>The image shows a red ceremonial huipil laid flat. It features a central opening and a decorative border with a repeating pattern of small, colorful motifs. The fabric has a textured appearance, consistent with the description of being woven on a waist loom.</p>

Month	Description	Image
February	<p>Nahualá, Sololá Mayan language: K'iche' Ixchel Museum Collection: (MI-05384) Year of manufacture: 1970 c.</p> <p>This is an everyday huipil made out of two cloth panels woven on a backstrap loom with mercerized cotton. It features a "star or ch'umil", that according B. Arathoon (Sown symbols, 2005), "This motif has been a part of the Mesoamerican cosmological repertoire since Olmec times. It can be seen in celestial bands along with the sun, the moon and particularly Venus. It is also featured in codices, such as the Popol Vuh. It is known as "the star that precedes the sun."</p>	

Month	Description	Image
March	<p> Ceremonial Huipil San Martín Jilotepeque, Chimaltenango Mayan language: Kaqchikel Ixchel Museum Collection: Julia de Plocharski (P-138) Year of manufacture: 1920c. </p> <p> This is a ceremonial huipil made out of two cloth panels woven on a backstrap loom with brown cotton (Cuyuscate). It features geometric designs a "Kumatzín or arco", "Kumatz in Kaqchikel means snake, which may be associated with the feathered serpent, a pre-Hispanic concept". (text extracted from calendar Textile Symbols, Ixchel Museum of Indigenous Dress, 1999.) </p>	 <p>The image shows a rectangular ceremonial huipil laid flat. It features a complex design of horizontal bands with various geometric patterns, including zig-zags, diamonds, and stripes. The color palette is primarily purple, pink, and brown, with some white and yellow accents. The top edge has a decorative border with a repeating geometric motif. The fabric appears to be woven on a backstrap loom, as indicated by the texture and the way the panels are joined at the top.</p>