

Piece of the Month 2018

Month	Description	Image
January	<p>Overblouse Mixco, Guatemala Mayan language: poqomam Collection: Julia R. de Plochanski P-74 Year of manufacture: circa 1900</p> <p>This is a ceremonial cofradía huipil made with three cloth panels woven on a backstrap loom and sown together by hand using backstitching. The edges of the neck and sleeves feature handmade natural cotton and wool bobbin lace. The upper border of the garment is hand embroidered with hand spun natural white cotton dyed with purpura pansa snail (purple). These decorations are enhanced with metal sequins, which were commonly used at the time.</p>	

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February	<p>Salcajá, Quetzaltenango Mayan language: k'iche' Colección Museo Ixchel: MI-03746/090 Year of manufacture: 1980</p> <p>This corte or skirt is made of one cloth panel woven on a treadle loom using acrylic fibers and mercerized cotton. It is worn in the wraparound style. The thin yellow, red and green stripes of the warp (or vertical threads of the fabric) contrast with the complex and varied jaspe designs woven in the warp and weft (or horizontal threads). Jaspe is a tie-dye technique: threads are knotted to create the figures and the knots prevent the dye from penetrating, thus keeping the threads' original color. After dyeing, the knots are dried and undone and the designs are woven using the undyed parts of the threads.</p>	