



Ramallah (Palestine) chest panel

This piece of embroidery is a reproduction of a chest panel from a dress in Ramallah. The chest panel was a gift to **Fatima Abbadi**, made by the highly skilled embroiderer **Nurhan Ali**. Nurhan lives in Capelle aan den IJssel and attends every Friday since four years the *Middle East Embroidery School* directed by Fatima.

Palestinian dresses and embroidery



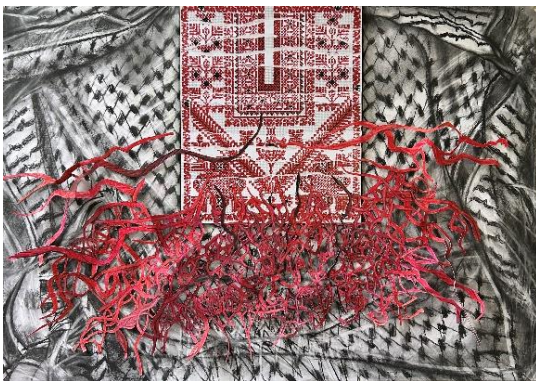
Traditionally, women embroidered hand-woven fabrics made of linen, cotton, or a blend of both. They also sometimes used silk, embroidering with silk or metal threads. Until the end of the 19th century, textile production flourished in Historic Palestine. However, luxurious fabrics like silk, satin, and brocades were imported from Syria, with production facilities in Damascus, Aleppo, Homs, and Hama.

Ramallah Summer Dress - 1880
www.palestineheritage.org/tc-ramalla

Ramallah patterns were famous for their geometric designs, but around 1879, floral and other new designs began to appear. These new cross-stitch patterns were inspired by the Quakers' pattern sheets, who established two boarding schools in Ramallah in 1870.

Dresses from Ramallah are well-known for their wine-red cross-stitch, with dress colors changing by season—white linen in summer and black in winter.

The drawing



Inge van der Storms main theme is textile. That's why for this project – Art = Communication – she was looking once again* for cooperation with an artisan with a refugee background, who still practices needlework in the traditional way from her own culture.

With this drawing she wants to pay homage to the skills of this artisan, but she wants also make visible the threat of loss by industry or war.

*In 2023 she cooperated with the Ukrainian artisan Olga Nifantova.