



## Waistcoat shape

Place of origin: France (made)

Date: 1780s (made)

Artist/Maker: Unknown

Materials and Techniques: Silk embroidery on silk

Credit Line: Given in memory of Miss Amelia Harjes, Paris, 1880-1967

Museum number: T.427-1994

Gallery location: In Storage

### Descriptive line

A man's waistcoat shape, French, 1780s; white silk satin embroidered with coloured silk threads

### Physical description

Rectangular panel of cream ribbed silk embroidered to shape to be cut out and made up into a waistcoat.

The embroidery is in silks of a number of different colours, predominantly blues, pinks, yellows and greens, worked mostly in satin stitch and French knots. The borders are worked with a design of large, non-naturalistic flower heads and leaves; the body of the waistcoat has tiny regular flower sprigs.

The decorated areas comprise the two front and bottom borders (the right hand border with seven uncut buttonholes); two pocket flaps (on separate pieces of silk applied to the panel), and four additional areas for the collar and lapels, as well as 13 flower sprigs for covered buttons. In a number of places the original drawing of the design and the shaping of the waistcoat on the cream silk can be seen. The cream silk is a loom width with a pink stripe in each selvedge; it is hemmed at the bottom but unfinished at the top edge.

Marks on the panel include "N.4" written in ink on the front bottom right corner, a cloth label printed "19305" and hand written "ai" on the back bottom right hand corner, and a metal tag: MERCENAZIONE REGIAFINAN [?] fixed through one selvedge.

### Museum number

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### Object history note

Registered File number 1994/802.

### URL

<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O315235/waistcoat-shape-unknown/>

