

Rhapsody, and the Americana Collection



Courtesy of the Cleveland Museum of Art

Rhapsody is a piece of silk which is currently on display at the Cleveland Museum of Art! The artifact is a piece of silk crepe with a pattern of a jazz band printed and repeated on the sheet of paper.

Fun Fact: Rhapsody was inspired by Jazz! It is named after the George Gershwin composition "Rhapsody in Blue"

Rhapsody is a part of a larger collection commissioned by the Stehli Silk Corporation. This collection is called the "Americana Collection". This was made to celebrate American culture. The different patterns drew inspiration from different places ranging from cultural to historical.



Courtesy of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

This print entitled "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes". This is inspired by a popular 1928 silent film of the same name.

The Americana collection was meant to celebrate American culture and its history. A lot of artists as shown were inspired by American cult during the 1920s.

Quick Facts!

- The Americana collection ran from 1927 - 1947.
- These swatches of patterns were used as examples of purchasable fabric which would be used to make clothing items.
- Rhapsody was designed by John Held Jr. who sought a lot of inspiration from the Jazz age.

Sources:

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