



IROQUOIS ILLUMINATION

Melanie Carrico

Kent State University, Kent, OH 44242

Problem Statement: To create an outfit with the focus being a simple vest with a surface design created via a subtractive means, piercing. The piercing feature allows the wearer to control what colors in which the design will appear.

Inspiration: The surface design was inspired by the motifs found in Iroquois beadwork.

Description: A navy blue pig suede vest is worn over a cream textured silk blouse. Motifs on the vest are placed in a vertical row down the left front. Two motifs are placed at the bust on the right front; then one large motif is in the back. The blouse is semi-fitted, long sleeved, and buttons in front. A long navy blue chenille skirt completes the outfit. The lined skirt is straight and has elastic inserted into the sides of the waistband for comfort.

Techniques and media employed: The surface design of the vest was created by punching holes using a leather punch. The vest is unlined and has no facings since linings and facings would interfere with the surface design. Suede was used because the raw edges do not need finishing to prevent fraying. The silk blouse is finished inside with French seams since it is somewhat diaphanous. Chenille was chosen for the skirt because of its rich texture and soft hand.