

Byzantine Muse

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Colors, such as gold, turquoise, brass and black, found in Byzantine



art were the inspiration for Byzantine Muse. The primary goal was to design an evening gown that exuded the aesthetics, color wise of the time period. An additional goal was to reuse metal findings from the manufacture of western jeans in a special occasion dress. To achieve the second goal surplus brass colored buckles intended for embellishing women's jeans were stitched onto the strapless neckline of the dresses bodice.



The gown was draped on a dress form from a single piece of 100% silk shantung. The various darts (French and release) used to shape the gown and were hand stitched with a prick stitch on the outside of the garment while on the dress form. The neckline of the gown was hand-painted with fabric paints, and then two types of glass beads and the metal buckles were hand stitched over the painted area. The gown has a removable net back bustle and a corset to support the bodice of the dress.