



July 2007

**Installation of Southwest and Andean Textiles
On View in the Luce Visible Storage•Study Center**

A selection of textiles from the southwestern United States and the Andean area of South America will be on view from August 1 through November 25, 2007, in the Brooklyn Museum's Luce Visible Storage•Study Center for American Art. *Weaving Arts of the Americas*, an exhibition of fifteen exquisite textile fragments, features examples of weavings that illustrate technical skill and religious iconography. From the Southwest, Pueblo textiles reflect the historical changes that took place before and after Spanish colonization, when new fibers and weaving techniques were introduced. An example of a pre-Hispanic Anasazi carrying cloth contrasts with later, more colorful textiles such as the ceremonial Navajo belt and Hopi dance kilt also on view.

In the Andes, a great weaving tradition has continued through successive cultures for more than 5,000 years, producing vibrant textiles with representations of complex iconography, often representing real and supernatural animals. Included in the presentation is a rare, painted cotton textile depicting the fanged Chavin deity, an image from one of the earliest known belief systems that flourished in Peru about 400 B.C. Beautifully embroidered examples from the subsequent Paracas coastal culture are on view as well as textiles from a variety of other cultures including Nasca, Wari and Chimú. All portray examples of abstract and realistic figures that were part of the ceremonial nature of these societies. Two paintings representing Inca kings in full regalia illustrate the continuity of the pre-Columbian weaving tradition into the colonial era. *Weaving Arts of the Americas* has been organized by Georgia de Havenon, Research Associate, Arts of the Americas collection. Other examples from the Brooklyn Museum's holdings of Andean textiles, considered one of the finest collections of its kind in the world, are on view in the Hall of the Americas.

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