

ASIAN PLUM

March 2002

Design Inspiration

This suit was designed for the Sew News Collection Challenge, which required the use of a specific pattern and embroidery design. My aim was to integrate the embroidery with the garment's design lines so that they complemented each other. Since pattern modifications were encouraged, I altered the jacket to have a more dramatic front closure, and added inset borders to all of the jacket edges and the pant hems. These borders are scaled in width to the size of the embroidered motifs. The motifs are repeated in a mirror-image arrangement along the borders and give emphasis to interior design lines of the garments. Each side of the jacket lapel is embroidered so that it can be worn open or closed.

Fabrics

Jacket and pants: linen blend of acrylic, cotton and flax.

Embellishments

Machine embroidery designs from OESD–frenchborder.

Patterns

McCalls 3503 (modified).

Special Sewing Techniques

The front of the jacket has been converted to an asymmetrical closure and all of the edges of the jacket and the pant hems have been modified to include inset bands. The fabric for these bands was embroidered prior to cutting them out. A separate band collar was also drafted and embroidered. The front bands of the jacket includes a hidden placket so that the closure does not interfere with the flow of the embroidery around the jacket. The jacket is fully lined. The hem bands on the pants are finished by hand on the inside of the garment.

Exhibitions and Awards

Grand Prize winner, Sew News Collection Challenge, April 2002.