

# HIGH TEA

## June 2006

### Design Inspiration

This versatile group of mix-and match pieces, which is anchored by the tweed suit, was created for the American Sewing Guild Creativity Contest. *Threads* Magazine articles inspired the trim for the suit, the flounces on the jacket and skirt hems, the peasant top, and the use of a large-scale print for the dress. The embellishments on the garments are intended to give the pieces individuality and character, whilst not limiting their wearability.

### Fabrics

Suit: 100 % silk tweed, 100 % silk chiffon.

Top and Cropped Pants: 100 % silk broadcloth.

Dress: 100 % cotton sateen print and solid.

Two-piece dress: 100 % rayon print.

Pants: linen/lycra.

Bolero and Top: 52 % polyester, 48 % cotton burnout.

Peasant Top: 100 % crinkle silk.

### Embellishments

Suit: hand-made trim of bias strips of chiffon and silk tweed.

Top and Cropped Pants: tucks.

Dress: lace trim and piping.

Peasant Top: lace trim.

### Patterns

Suit: Simplicity 4368 (modified).

Top and Cropped Pants: Simplicity 4368.

Dress: Simplicity 4270.

Two-piece dress: Simplicity 4368 (modified).

Pants: Simplicity 4368 (modified).

Bolero and Top: Simplicity 4270 (modified).

Peasant Top: New Look 6976.

## **Special Sewing Techniques**

The suit is embellished with black gros-grain ribbon and an extravagant custom-made, fringed trim made of layers of bias silk tweed and silk chiffon strips. The top and cropped pants are embellished with horizontal rows of tucks at the hemlines, inspired by the small tucks at the neckline of the top. The dress makes use of a very dramatic large-scale print. Each piece had to be cut separately so that the dominant motifs would fall in a pleasing way. The lines of the dress are accented with black lace, piping and a hem band. The peasant top is also accented with a lace trim that is sewn onto the elastic casings resulting in a gathered look.

## **Exhibitions and Awards**

Runner-up, Most Interesting Wardrobe Concept, ASG Creativity Contest June 2006.

Finalist, 7th Annual Inspired by Threads Fashion Challenge, October 2006.