Pattern Research Project: An Investigation of The Pattern And Printing Process - Fruit Tree

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Fruit Tree
that goes into the motif makes it clear when this pattern was created. Using different shapes and colors that correlate and enhance the drawing and design of his final studies put together. In this iteration of the motif the colors used are grays, red, with shapes and geometry, then studies shadows, then colors, and finally develops different iterations. As Girard started to build the pattern, he played with multiple iterations beginning movement. This pattern has reflective evolution of organisms set by Darwin but also refers to eternal life as seen in religious texts. Through Girard's textile, he evokes the folk-art feeling in color and the recurring Tree of Life motif using shapes relatable to the area his inspiration derived from unifying it into a work of art.

Color and design

This textile, made in 1961, was heavily influenced by the 1960's op art, color and geometry movement. As Girard started to build the pattern, he played with multiple iterations beginning with shapes and geometry, then studies shadows, then colors, and finally develops different iterations of his final studies put together. In this iteration of the motif the colors used are grays, red, yellows, and greens. During this time period these colors were very prominent. The op art movement brought symmetry and color to inspire an illusion of movement or three dimensions. The branches on top of the fruit imply dimension through layering and they lead the eye around to every fruit (the shapes) and implies a vertical linear pattern gridding for the repetition. Using different shapes and color that correlate and enhance the drawing and design that goes into the motif makes it clear when this pattern was created.

Production

Girard used his architectural background and geometric studies to create beautiful patterns and textiles for draperies, furniture and more. This pattern was originally printed on a fabric made from cotton, mohair, and rayon, some of the oldest materials used, woven together to form one material. Cotton is picked and spun into thread or string then used to weave. Mohair is the wool of an angora goat which are originally from the mountains of Tibet. Rayon is a material made of wood pulp. All of the materials are organic and resemble the look art which uses local, organic materials. Girard developed his pattern by printing it on the mixed cloth of cotton, mohair, and rayon.

Uses & Purposes

Alexander Girard was known for his geometric patterns and textiles among other things. He started with fabrics and evolved into wallpapers and moved even further to designing fabrics, pillows, neckties, furniture, and more. Girard had very strict usage for his patterns. He stated “Wall paper should be one of two things. Either it should be a mural, or it should be merely a texture background on which to hang pictures and decorative objects” (Girard 486). He believed that the textiles should evoke feeling and should be a freeing experience to express one's personality. Girard is against using realistic images for curtains and wallpapers because he feels the pattern should evoke a feeling instead of being a mural to look at. He also studied how patterns would react in a bundle like it would be in a curtain. Someone said, “Mr. Girard believed wallpaper should produce a feeling of texture or ‘change of pace’ on a wall without being obvious” (Girard 886). I think this is true because of how he produces his patterns. The geometry is very apparent to most objects or images he deprecate are unique and beautiful. Girard also wanted to evoke a certain type of feeling through his textiles to the modern class. Tom Ross explains Girard’s work as “It makes you feel that there are still bigger riches in the future”. He produced this patterns and decor with good taste and modernity for the postwar modern consumers. This pattern is still used by the modern consumer through its timeless. Today it is used as wallcoverings, pillows, suitcases, and more.