

Evelyn Vanderhoop Video 2

Every ancient robe I've ever studied, always, each one gave me an emotional reaction and a recognition of energy.

And so, I wanted to represent, with geometric patterning, I wanted to represent that energy. And I had noticed a phenomena with Raven's tail geometric patterns that sometimes if you get the rows, get the right size and you step back, they shimmer. It's a shimmering effect. And it's not doing anything, it's not moving. It's an optical shimmering. And I wanted to capture that in this robe. And so out of this very central diamond reverberates lines. There's eight bands, but they reverberate and they cross borders, to express this expanding energy that I wanted to illustrate.

So, it's a fringe, what you'd call a fringe row where you weave it, but it creates a half of the fringe coming forward. So, it's going to be great when it dances, it'll really fringe, really twirl around. And then the tassels are traditional. There is one robe that is at the British Museum in London and I was able to study that a couple of years ago, and it is the one robe of this style that has no tassels.

And so, I was like, maybe I won't put tassels in it because I was so afraid that this expanding energy and this moving optically would maybe be affected by the tassels. But I put the tassels in, and my daughters and I stepped back and we felt that it just really puts a finish on the robe. And when it dances, you kind of need the tassels to really get the effect that these robes have when they dance.