



V'SOSKE RUGS

Client: V'Soske

Completion: 1993

These rugs' patterns and textures represent fabrics of silk kimonos one might find in the Japanese equivalent of thrift shops. Our versions are abstracted through increased scale, different materials, and a Western context -- placing our designs within a Pop Art tradition.

Symbolically, our designs derive from a fascination with aspects of Japanese art -- which acknowledges the tradition in which Western artists interpret and adapt Japanese art and architecture -- although we're admittedly focusing on a humble manifestation of Japanese art.

Two of our rugs conform to orthodox Modern tradition in art: their designs are expressively flat -- literally and figuratively, they're flat and *look* flat. They conform to the nature of their materials and to their function.

But a third rug doesn't conform. It's a flat representation of complexly patterned fabric that's gathered into random 3-D folds. Representation of shades and shadows makes the rug read three-dimensionally, though it's still a flat rug on a floor.

In the design of our rugs, texture is as important as pattern. V'Soske's sensitive fabrication allowed us to subtly suggest the cotton and silk textures of the original fabrics upon which we based our designs.



