

Basic Detail Report



Title Polychrome Marble Inlaid Floor and Wall Panels

Date c. 1800

Medium Marble, stone inlay

Description The floor and wall panels of the Ottoman Gallery were created from historical marble panels as well as modern panels custom-made for this space. Created as the “Syrian room” for Shangri La, the floor was created to accompany the acquisition of an interior of an ‘ataba — or reception hall — from Ottoman Damascus, dating to the middle of the 1800s. The elaborate, geometric designs of the marble tiles were created using a technique called opus sectile, or “stone mosaic” in which mother-of-pearl is inlaid to marble. Arriving in unmarked boxes, the jigsaw-like

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pieces were assembled by workmen of Hawai'i - and some of the resulting motifs very closely resemble traditional Hawaiian quilt patterns more than typically Ottoman geometric design.

Dimensions Overall: 312 1/8 x 15 in. (792.8 x 38.1cm)