

Object Summary



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Tile Mosaic Window Grill with Floral Motifs

1938-1939

Iran (Isfahan)

Pahlavi

Stonepaste, polychrome pigments

Overall: 28 1/2 x 28 1/2 in. (72.4 x 72.4cm)

This mosaic tile panel (one of four) is adorned with a turquoise lattice design resembling a jali, or window grill. Blossoms embellish the turquoise ground and border of scrolling vines. This panel was custom-made for Shangri La in a workshop in Isfahan, Iran during the 1930s. The panel is based on prototypes from Masjid-i Shah, a monumental mosque located along the maidan, or main square, of Isfahan, Iran. A 1939 photograph in the Shangri La archives shows Iranian craftsmen working on the ceramic grill panels. Once complete, the panels were positioned face down so that the craftsmen could apply a plaster backing to affix the pieces of ceramic tile into place.