



## ‘MAKANA’ – IKAT WEAVING ON BACKSTRAP LOOM

Bullcay, Azuay – Ecuador

Ecuadorian ikat, also known as “makana”, was declared Immaterial Cultural Patrimony of Ecuador by UNESCO in 2015. It takes about three days to hand-weave a shawl on the backstrap loom, plus one or two days of dyeing through a complex process of knotting threads (similar to tie dye), which defines the pattern of the fabric.

The makana textile in this collection was woven by Piedad Ulloa, her husband and their children. They work together from their home and workshop in Bullcay, Azuay. Unfortunately, most of the weavers today are over 50 years old. Piedad’s children are some of the few weavers of their generation.

Due to the high prices of makanas, local demand is low and the craft is no longer profitable. Hope for makana weavers is in connecting with international markets, and widening the uses of the textile beyond traditional shawls. Creating garments out of makanas has sparked curiosity and motivation amongst weavers. We expect to innovate together for years to come.





Ikat Jacket in Blue





Ikat Jacket in Blue





Ikat Jacket in Pinkish Grey





Ikat Jacket in Red





Ikat Jacket in Violet





Ikat Poncho Dress in Pink





Ikat Poncho Dress in Pink





Ikat Poncho Dress in Purple





Ikat Double Dress in Grey





Ikat Double Dress in Grey





Ikat Double Dress in Grey





Ikat Double Dress in Grey





Ikat Long Dress in Lavender





Ikat Long Dress in Lavender





Ikat Long Dress in Lavender





Ikat & Denim Patchwork Bomber





Ikat Double Dress in Lilac & Orange









Ikat Double Dress in Purple





Ikat Poncho Dress in Lilac & Pink





Ikat Poncho Dress in Lilac & Pink



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