

Large Panels for America
Anna-Sophie Berger

MAK Center Los Angeles, Mackey Apartments
Thursday March 7 – Sunday March 10, 2024

Apartment:

Large Panel for America (1), 2024
Polyestersatin, fusible, thread
42in x 65in

Large Panel for America (2), 2024
Polyestersatin, fusible, thread
42in x 65in

Large Panel for America (3), 2024
Polyestersatin, fusible, thread
42in x 65in

Large Panel for America (4), 2024
Polyestersatin, fusible, thread
42in x 65in

Garage:

The Firemen's Ball (Wealth and Propriety Edit), 2024
HD video 01:10:31 min

A graph alleges a simple correspondence between the vertical dimension of a garment (length) with the term “wealth” and between the horizontal dimension of a garment (thickness) with the term “propriety”.

This can be interpreted to mean that the length of the hemline of a garment corresponds to increasing wealth and that its relative thickness – or its layers – corresponds to increasing propriety.

To showcase conspicuously one’s wealth would register negatively upon one’s propriety. However, increased decorous thickness could be seen as a positive counterbalance to the negative impact of conspicuous length.

If we interpret propriety not as financial modesty but as sexual demureness – the covering of the naked body – say, in a societal framework where class relations are assumed to be god given, relative wealth expressed in long dresses covering the body would further increase one’s propriety. Likewise, an increase of material in thickness would bolster the notion of material exuberance associated with wealth.

The aspirational citizen then is an ever-expanding sphere.