



Coptic Textile Fragment

Date

ca. 330-641

Primary Maker

Artist Unknown

Medium

wool, linen and dye

Description

The term "Coptic" is derived from the Greek "Aiggyptos" and the Arabic "Kipt," meaning Egyptian. It was used by Arabs at the time of their conquest of Egypt (640-641) to refer to the native population in general. The term is also used to refer to the art of early Christian Egypt from about the 3rd to the 7th century, but Christian imagery was not necessarily a fundamental component of this art style. This fragment, possibly from a tunic medallion, features a conventionalized animal design.

Dimensions

Overall: 3 5/8 x 7 1/4 in. (9.2 x 18.4 cm)