

# Blouse.blue.R

by Ely Urbanski

Audio Description Script

by Karen Edwards, June 2022



## Script

The following is an audio description of *blouse.blue.R* by Ely Urbanski, completed in 2008. This artwork is a monoprint on fabric using bleach. A monoprint is a type of printmaking in which only a single impression of an image is made. Royal blue fabric with the image of a blouse is suspended by a rod and hangs loosely in a white frame that is approximately 45" square. There are two aspects to this artwork: the original clothing item that provides the image and the fabric on which the image was imprinted. The clothing used to make this artwork was donated by Toshiko Tomono.

A greyish-white imprint of the front of a blouse is in the center of the blue fabric. The imprint depicts a traditional button-down blouse with a collar and full sleeves cuffed at the wrists. It is buttoned up except for the top button and is arranged as if laid out on a bed or other flat surface. The ample fabric of the blouse is gathered so that it is narrow at the waist and then flares slightly to form a feminine shape. As a result of the bleaching technique used by the artist, the many folds, creases, swirls, and ripples in the fabric emerge as brighter and more discernable while the recesses and crevasses are shades of grey. With this variation in color intensity, the fluidity and dimension in the original object are revealed.

The blue fabric itself has sewn edges on three sides and has creases from where it's been folded. Three vertical folds and one horizontal fold add texture, shadows, and an intimate, familiar feeling to the artwork.

From a statement provided by the artist for a 2017 exhibition at the community arts center, VAE Raleigh, Urbanski wrote, "I have been collecting clothes from friends, family and my previous exhibitions visitors. These clothes are the matrices for my monoprints on fabric. Most of the clothes have a story, they were worn for a long time, the person who owned the clothes had an emotional attachment to it, they only used them in special occasions, etc. What I noticed is that those clothes have one thing in common: they are stories of relationships. A material reminder of an interaction with a living person, with someone they missed or a particular situation in their lives."

This description was brought to you by Karen Edwards an audio describer with Arts Access, a North Carolina nonprofit that works to make the arts accessible to children and adults with disabilities.