

The Echoes of Chu Quyen



THE ECHOES OF

- *Chu Quyen*

“Echoes” are not simply echoes – they are echoes of memories, heritage, and remnants of a bygone era.

This is not a random place name – Chu Quyen communal house is a masterpiece of 17th century architecture, bearing the national soul.

The carved patterns, the overlapping roofs, the ironwood pillars – all are “material echoes” of a golden age in traditional fine arts. The collection aims to connect those echoes with modern times through materials, shapes and image creation, bringing a part of Vietnamese culture into the flow of contemporary fashion.

The “echo” here is not loud – but the subtle spread of traditional culture, revived through every fold, seam, and layer of material.

The name “The Echoes of Chu Quyen” is conceptual, symbolic and connecting – an artistic statement full of identity, clearly expressing the creator’s design perspective:

- Respecting the value of the origin,
- Reviving the past with contemporary thinking,
- And retelling the story of national culture in a global language.



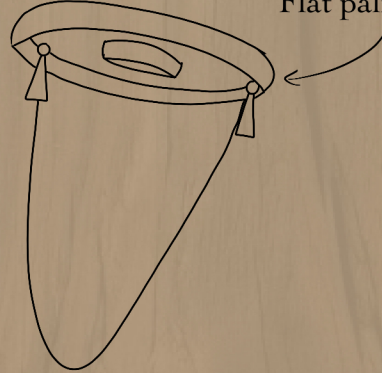
INITIAL INSPIRATION

The combination of Vietnamese women's costumes is due to the harmony of the same time frame, Chu Quyen communal house was built in the late 17th century and early 18th century.

Bodice/halter top



Flat palm hat



Four-part dress/
outer tunic



Skirt



curved pointed roof structure



ironwood carvings

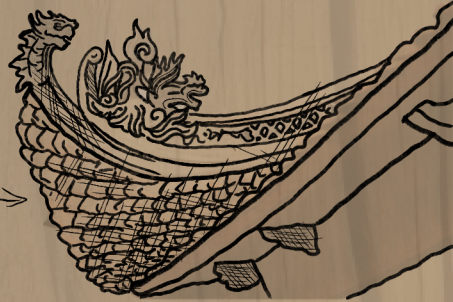


Chu Quyen

OVERALL ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURE

Bricks and roof tiles with curved roofing, architecture rising high → creating an inverted bow shape

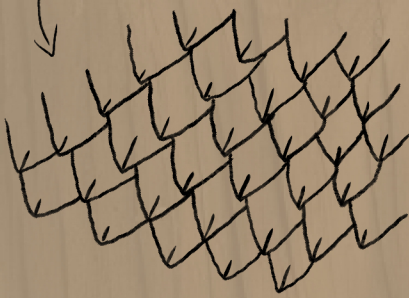
front view



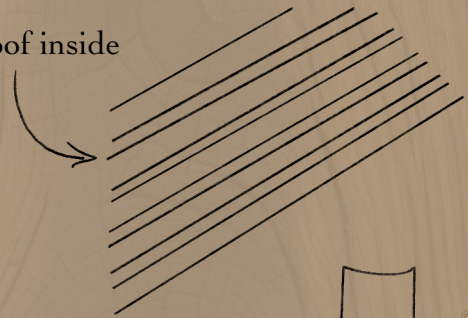
side view



The roof tiles are laid on top of each other in layers.



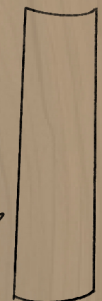
tiled roof inside



inside view



pillar shape inside the communal house



Chu Quyen

ART OF CARVING

The carving art at Chu Quyen communal house is considered one of the pinnacle examples of Vietnamese communal house art during the Later Le Dynasty. Different from the stereotypes and standards of royal sculpture, village communal house carvings have a folk spirit, are liberal, expressive and creative.



Mainly made on ironwood – a durable, strong wood that allows for deep carving, creating distinct relief.



High relief is the dominant technique: the carvings not only “float” but also appear to extend beyond the wooden surface, close to sculptural sculpture.

Chu Quyen communal house stands out with three-dimensional wood carvings (instead of sunken or flat carvings), reaching the same level of mastery as statue carving.



Original wood color – is dark brown – dark yellow – black wood shine. → This color system is absolutely compatible with the natural color tone of cowhide (honey brown, mahogany brown, glossy black, earth yellow).



Chu Quyên

INTRICATE DETAILS

The spaciousness in the carvings is balanced, tightly adjusted by the layout, creating a dragon image that is both refined and rustic, fully expressing the simplicity, closeness... the easily recognizable spirits in the communal house space. Looking at the dragon image, one can see the majesty there. The artist also shows that this is a large-sized dragon.

Wood carving patterns using sophisticated carving techniques



dragon scale pattern



Cloud



Curved roof tiles: At each corner of the roof, the roof tiles are curved upwards, the tip of the tiles is long and tapered like a sharp sword blade, helping to collect rainwater, while creating a graceful, airy shape.



variation of traditional costume

Based on the structure of the roof, the costume is transformed in the shoulder and collar parts.

Use leather carving techniques to create patterns.

Pleated sleeves also with cloud detail

The front flap is tied back, inspired by the four-panel dress.

The dress is divided into 4 panels, 2 panels in front and 2 panels in back.





leather carving



Laser engraved
leather collar and
entire skirt



Build a frame to create a shape for the lower part.
Disassemble each piece of leather and then
reassemble using weaving techniques.

built from the flat
palm hat shape



Patchwork each
piece of leather
separately to
create a 3D effect
with depth



small pieces of
leather are
layered on top of
each other



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