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# MEISEN KIMONO

THE KARUN THAKAR COLLECTION



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Anna Jackson and  
Kimono Meisen: The Karun Thakar Collection



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Meisen silk was stated in Japan from the later nineteenth century and became particularly well-known between 1910 and 1940. The meisen kimonos which were created en masse were the initial affordable ready-to-use kimonos. Meisen was an innovative, quick and cost-effective dye and weaving method with the effect of labor-intensive and multicolored traditional kasuri ikat fabric. As eminent style garments, meisen kimonos would be replaced with the next new fashion after just a season or two. Designed by a young generation of Japanese textile designers who synthesized classic Japanese design with the influence of Western design actions, the patterns still appear fresh and primary today and stand for a little-known study in textile style of the early twentieth century. Thus most of them were kept in exceptional condition and were actually passed down as heirlooms. In recent years they have resurfaced and are today enjoying the high esteem bestowed in it by collectors.



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