Condition Report
of the
Polypropylene Tapestry
“Fête I”
by Wil Fruytier
To compare the condition of the front of the tapestry and the reverse side of the tapestry, we removed loose fibres from various coloured parts.

**Blue lower part**

Samples were taken from the whole blue part on the bottom of the tapestry from the front and from the reverse side.  
**Loose particles (taken from an area of approx. 20 x 40 cm)**  
Front blue pattern (lowest part): sample number 1  
Reverse side blue pattern (lowest part): sample number 2

**Discolouration**  
The discolouration of the blue colour was obvious on the front of the tapestry. On the reverse side it is difficult to see with the naked eye. So we took photos to compare.

**Mechanical Damage**  
Front part: 700 knots/ 170 damaged  
Reverse side: 700 knots /400 damaged

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>blue fibres reverse side lower area sample 2</th>
<th>blue fibres front side lower area sample 1</th>
<th>Conclusion: More mechanical damage on the reverse side, more loose fibres on the front side</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

![Front and reverse sides of the tapestry](image)
Black lines  
The black lines in the tapestry all are in a good condition. No loose fibres. The only thing is that some parts are matt, while other parts are still shiny. Some ropes are very loosely weaved. **They are marked in red in the drawing!**

### Orange part

Orange part left of the tapestry (see marked on the drawing) It was 2.57 from the top of the tapestry and 15 cm from the side.

15 x 15 cm was used to remove the loose fibres  
overall impression of the orange part is that it is less degraded than the white parts but more than the yellow parts.

Is the left side of the tapestry more degraded than the right side if you look at the front facial?

orange front side  samples 3  
orange reverse side sample 4  

Lower orange area, front side. Loose fibres removed on the left side. Sample number 3 derives from area shown on this photo
White part

Above the orange part on the left side of the front of tapestry square A18/19
15 x 15 cm
Overall impression is that the white parts are enormously degraded!!!

white side front: sample 5
white side reverse side: sample 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>White area left to lower orange area on the front side: yellowed fibres fell off on top of the threads in every second row. The material underneath is whiter</th>
<th>White area left to lower orange area on the front side: mechanical damage on top of the threads</th>
</tr>
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</table>

Very degraded edges of tapestry at left front side (square A 18/19), photo taken after removal of loose white fibres (see sample number 5)
Left: front side, right: reverse side where samples were taken. Degraded edges are very obvious on reverse side

Left: samples from the front side, right: samples from the reverse side

Different amounts of loose fibres, colour responsible for more or less degradation

The lower yellow part (square F/G 16) also the loose fibres were removed. The loose fibres look thinner and smaller than the loose orange fibres. The degradation is more seriously than the orange degradation. The cleaned fibres look more yellow and shiny when wiped off. The yellow colour of the fibres is also seriously discoloured (we looked inside the yellow rope)

Sample front : sample 7
Sample reverse side sample 8
| Different amounts of wiped off fibres from opposing squares of 15 x 15 cm on front and reverse side | Wiped off area loose fibres removed: rope in the slit in the very centre of the picture is still intense in colour (front) |
| Degraded fibres wiped off on the left four yellow rows: the material underneath is less faded and more glossy (front side) | Degraded spiky yellow fibres in the foreground; wiped off on the left four yellow rows (front side) |
Then we took two white parts of the tapestry, one left and one right from the yellow figure. We took the loose fibres.

BAD BAD CONDITION

Left side sample 9 (square F 16)
Right side sample 10 (square N 16)

Wiped away fibres in the lower right area (white) on the picture (front side, square F 16)

To see whether the orange, blue and yellow are in the upper parts in the same condition as the lower parts, loose fibres were collected from the upper coloured parts.

No loose fibres were on the blue part
Loose fibres orange: sample 11
Loose fibres yellow: sample 12
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taking samples with a brush</th>
<th>Checking the condition by observing the amount of loose fibres</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loose fibres on the floor that fell off</td>
<td>Collected fibres on the floor, mainly white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainly white but no blue or black fibres in the collected fallen-off fibres on the floor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Condition report of the tapestry *Fête 1*
Amsterdam, August 2007
Thea van Oosten/Katharina Haider