

## Textiles from Verucchio (700 - 650 BC)

### Textile production, Clothing and textiles as status symbols in Villanovan times

Etruscans culture was rich in different garments both for men and women and both for every day use as well as for ceremonial occasions. Although original garments are completely lacking we are well informed about Etruscan dress by wall-paintings and sculptures. For the Pre-Etruscan, so called Villanova culture, dating between 800 and 600 BC, detailed representations of garments are missing. Some thirty years ago a huge amount of textile fragments was found at Verucchio, a small village near Rimini.

The wealth of the noble families is reflected by extraordinary rich amber finds in all the tombs. In 1970ties a large group of male and female tombs of local noble families dating from around 700 BC to 650 BC was excavated containing large amounts of textiles both fragments as well as whole garments, thus forming one of the largest and oldest European textile finds at ever.

In the beginning of the 1990ties the Soprintendenza Archeologica in Bologna started a new interdisciplinary project to study all the items found at Verucchio. The textiles are conserved and documented by the Institute for Conservation Science at the University of Applied Sciences Cologne.

There are two groups of textiles found in the tombs of Verucchio. The first group are those textiles which were used for the burial itself and burnt on the 'rogo'. The remains were put into the urns together with the ashes. The second group consists precious garments added to the tomb together with other items of representation such as weapons and jewelry, charriots, furniture ect.

A set of two semicircular cloaks and a sort of circular shaped cloak found at the famous 'tomba del trono' (tomb 89) has been studied and published. There could be proved that special looms were used for those cloaks which shed new light on the importance of technical know how and its transfer among the upper social classes.

Further research will be focused on men's garments from similar tombs as tomb 89, on different shapes of garments and on fragments of ladies garments.

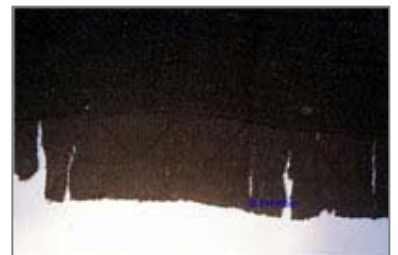
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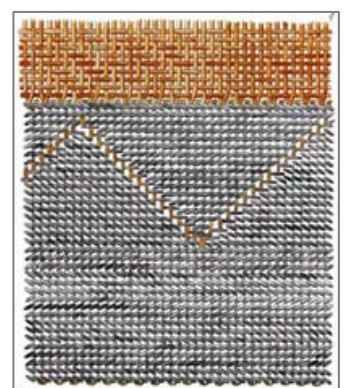
Textileproduction by noble ladies  
(Tintinnabolo Bologna Museo Archeologico)



Semicircular cloak M1 from tomb 89.



Part of a tabletwoven border



Technical drawing of tablet border  
(L.Raeder Knudsen)