

MUSEO DELLE CIVILTÀ

Garments Description

The two garments on display come from the Collection of Popular Arts and Traditions of the Museum of Civilizations in Rome. They were acquired in the early 20th century in preparation for the *Ethnographic Exhibition*, curated by ethnographer Lamberto Loria, as part of the 1911 *International Exposition in Rome*. Loria relied on the research of many scholars to document, the customs and traditions of all Italian regions, fifty years after the unification. Among the collected items were hundreds of traditional regional costumes, displayed in the Palace of Masks and Costumes. The two Ciociaro garments, from Casalvieri and Supino, municipalities in the province of Frosinone, identified by the Livornese naturalist Athos Foco Mainardi, became part of the original core of the collection in November 1908. It was only in 1956 that the collection was integrated into the new National Museum of Popular Arts and Traditions, located in the EUR neighbourhood, which is now part of the Museum of Civilizations.



Casalvieri Garment

The garment from Casalvieri, consisting of nine elements, was worn during ceremonies or festivities, as suggested by its craftsmanship, colours, and decorations. The shirt, traditionally white and made of linen fabric, has very wide sleeves, a round neckline, and a front opening embroidered. The sleeves are fastened at the elbow by black cloth bands decorated with red ribbon and silver braid: the same fabric and decorative motifs, in a richer form, are replicated on the corset and apron, which also features floral embroidery on the short sides. The dress consists of several elements: a wide green skirt and a red overskirt, gathered at the sides. The headdress is composed of a linen cloth handkerchief with a scalloped edge, embroidered with floral motifs.

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Supino Garment

The garment from Supino consists of seven elements and, like the one worn by the female figure depicted in the painting, is a garment for daily wear. The shirt is white, made of coarse linen, with a rounded neckline and a rich gathering closed by a button, and the large headscarf is also white, decorated with cotton tulle. The skirt is made of cotton and linen, with a red apron featuring light bands running horizontally. Over the shirt, a red silk bodice is reinforced with stays and decorated with metallic thread embroidery. The sleeves of the shirt are protected by removable work over-sleeves, made of green fabric bordered with brown velvet fabric.



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