



Museum Textile Services

Thangka lining with silk crepe line procedure

- 1) Stretch silk crepe line onto stretcher slightly bigger than original painting.
- 2) Place stretched crepe line face down onto a sheet of Mylar.
- 3) Coat stretched crepe line with two layers of adhesive with a brush. Allow to dry.
- 4) Place thangka face down on new, clean piece of Mylar. Secure in corners with masking tape.
- 5) Place coated crepe line screen onto thangka. Check to make sure that weave lines on crepe line match weave lines on the thangka. Mark correct placement with masking tape on the Mylar.
- 6) Remove crepe line screen.
- 7) Reactivate adhesive on crepe line screen with ethyl acetate with a wide brush.
- 8) Immediately place crepe line screen face down onto thangka in the previously marked position.
- 9) Exert pressure on the reverse with a flat hand through another Mylar sheet, chasing air bubbles to the outside.
- 10) After complete drying, cut the crepe line from the screen.
- 11) Remove the masking tape securing the corners of the thangka and adhere these spots using the same process.

Recipe for adhesive:

- 1/3 volume of ethyl acetate/methylcellulose (50/50) - thickener and lowers adhesive power
- 2/3 volume of Plextol B500 (75% solution in water) - adhesive