SPITALFIELDS

CHRIS DYSON

PICTUED SIZE

2.75m x 3.65m (9' x 12")

WEAVE

Hand Knotted

MATERIALS

Handspun Afghan Wool with Silk motifs

Christopher Farr partnered with award-winning architect and local resident Chris Dyson to create a modern reinterpretation of a historic Huguenot textile design. Both studios are based in Spitalfields, once the epicentre of London's eighteenth-century weaving industry.

The 'Spitalfields' rug is informed by a sliver of original Huguenot crewel work from Dyson's personal collection. Measuring just 15 x 70cm, the fragment provided the starting point for a much larger composition. Its flowers and fruit motifs were enlarged, expanded and reimagined across the rug, retaining the character and vibrant colours of the original while moving away from the density of historic pattern.

The translation from needle to knot also echoes the relief of the original stitching. Silk motifs are worked at a higher pile, lending them emphasis against a wool ground, while a simple lower-pile border frames the design, enlivened by stems and vines that creep across it.



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