





GOLD OF THE ANDES





MYTHICAL ANIMAL



WITHIN THE HIGHLANDS OF THE RUGGED ANDES ROAM A VARIETY OF CAMELIDS. NEXT TO THE HAUGHTY LLAMAS AND WOOLY ALPACAS, CANTERS THE VICUNA. REGALIN APPEARANCE WITH ITS TAWNY COLORED COAT OF HAIR, UNIQUE IN ITS FINENESS, THIS **MAGNIFICENT YET TIMID** SPECIES CANNOT BE **APPROACHED** EASILY. ITS ACUTE SENSE OF HEARING INSTANTLY AROUSES ITS SUSPICIONS WHICH WILL CAUSE IT TO HASTILY RUN AWAY.

These beautiful, graceful creatures dwell above 3800 masl, mainly in the Peruvian Andes. They will spend the daytime grazing calmly along the highland plains looking for something to eat among the dry and nutrient-poor grasses of the area, while at dusk they will go looking for a spot to spend the cold windy nights huddling together on the mountain slopes.

Despite the risks threatening their survival, they have managed to defeat the lurking dangers, and can now canter freely in their habitat of the majestic Peruvian highlands





IN ANCIENT TIMES, LONG BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE PRE-COLOMBIAN AMERICAN WORLD WITH EUROPEAN CONQUERORS, A SERIES OF CULTURES DEVELOPED IN PERU WHICH FINALLY LED UP TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FAMOUS INCA EMPIRE FLOURISHING BETWEEN THE FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH CENTURIES AND WHICH DOMINATED A LARGE PART OF WESTERN SOUTH AMERICA.





Both pre-Inca cultures and Incas discovered almost all the techniques known to modern textile production, mastering them to perfection. They had at their disposal superb local raw materials such as cotton and the fibers of the South American camelids, one of which is the Vicuna.

The textiles of greatest value were reserved for the exclusive use of the noblemen of those kingdoms. They were made from Vicuna, often in conjunction with threads of gold.

When the first European chroniclers described the garments worn by the monarchs of Ancient Peru, they did not hesitate to classify them at a higher level than those used by the contemporary royalty of the Old Continent.



"CHACCU"

A MILLENARY TRADITION

THE WILD ANIMALS ARE SHORN ALIVE DURING A CEREMONY CALLED "CHACCU" WHICH IS STEEPED IN THE LEGEND AND TRADITION HANDED DOWN BY THE ANCESTORS.

This consisted in forming a great human chain of people carrying small colored flags and emitting chants, encircling herds of vicunas until they were hemmed into a circle and enclosed in a pen; here they would be sheared without being caused any harm.

Once the fleece possessing the warmth and golden glimmer of the sun's rays was obtained, the participants thanked the Inti (Sun), and the vicunas were set free again.

The practice of this millenary method is still happening today, and it has prevented the extinction of such a precious species.



THE LONG STRUGGLE FOR RECOVERY



THE HISTORY OF THE VICUNA
PROVIDES ONE OF THE WORLD'S
MOST PROMINENT AND
ENCOURAGING STORIES
OF THE CONSERVATION OF
A SPECIES IN DANGER OF
EXTINCTION.

BY THE MID-1970S, THERE REMAINED ONLY A FEW THOUSAND DISPERSED INDIVIDUALS, MAINLY IN THE PERUVIAN ANDES.

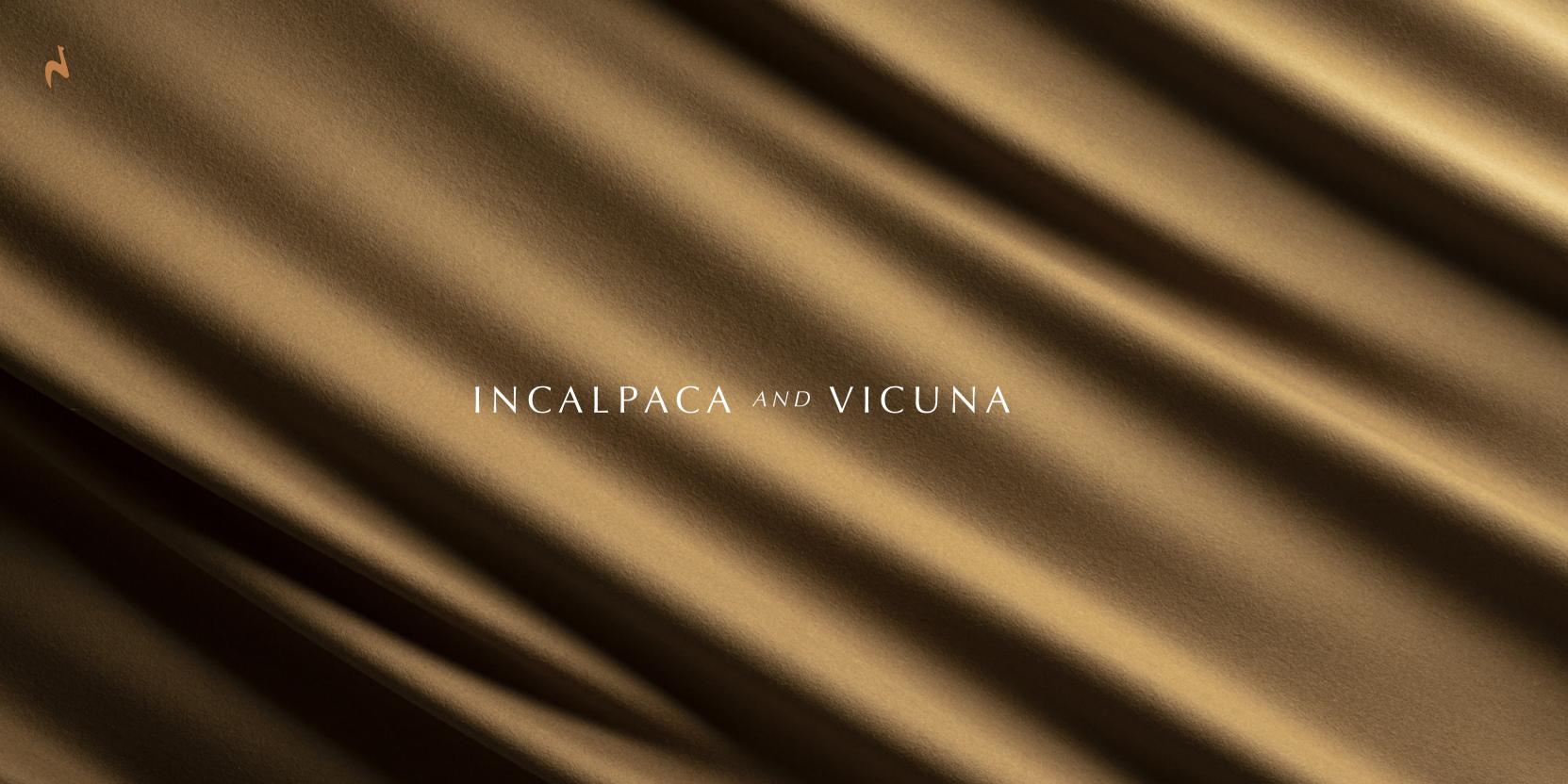
CONSTANT POACHING
MADE IT LOOK VERY LIKELY
THAT EXTINCTION WAS TO BE
THE FATE OF A SPECIES WHICH
REPRESENTED NOT ONLY AN
ANCIENT COUNTRY'S ANIMALKINGDOM WEALTH, BUT ALSO ITS
MOST REGAL SYMBOL, IN EVERY
SENSE OF THE EXPRESSION.

Happily, in the middle of the 1970s, when there remained only some five thousand specimens, the governments of Peru and Germany set up a plan to save the Vicuna from extinction.

Protection areas were created and the international prohibition of the sale of its fiber was imposed. Twenty-five years later on, the population had recovered sufficiently for CITES, the United Nations body in charge of protecting species in danger of extinction, to authorize the controlled use of legally obtained vicuna hair. The method used to capture the animals is still the Chaccu.

To reintroduce vicuna fiber to the international markets, in 1992 the Peruvian government organized a world contest that was won by the consortium then comprised by the Italian firms Loro Piana and Lanerie Agnona and the firm Incalpaca TPX from Arequipa.







WE PRODUCE THE FIRST LEGAL VICUNA FABRICS WOVEN IN PERU, AUTHORIZED BY CITES, AND MADE FROM FIBER OBTAINED THROUGH DULY ORGANIZED AND SUPERVISED "CHACCUS".

Today, garments made from the characteristically golden hair that glows in the sunlight are exhibited for sale only in the most exclusive shops worldwide.

Unequalled fineness among natural fibers, its limited supply and the aura which surrounds it as clothing for nobility, have enabled the Vicuna to recover its place as the world's finest material and as a symbol of the sustainable use of a species that had once reached the verge of extinction.

The brand name Vicuña Peru, which all legally produced garments must carry, together with a registration number, represents a tangible testimony to the international effort that has made the Vicuna's recovery possible.













LADIES' V NECK SWEATER Ladies' V Neck Sweater MEN'S V NECK SWEATER Men's V Neck Sweater A60K227 840005 NATURAL VICUNA A60P832 910001 BLACK 100% VICUNA GAUGE 16 100% VICUNA GAUGE 16







LIGHT TEXTURED FABRIC Lightweight fabric

> 610001A 840005 NATURAL VICUNA

100% VICUNA 150 cm. 335 gr.

POSITIVE OUTCOME

THE MARKET PRICE FOR THE LEGALLY OBTAINED FIBER TURNED OUT TO BE HIGHER THAN THAT PAID ON THE BLACK MARKET, AND THE COMMUNITIES LIVING IN THE ZONES INHABITED BY THE ANIMAL FINALLY HAD A REAL INCENTIVE TO SUPPORT ITS RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT.



IT WAS THEN THAT THE SLOGAN 'SHORN VICUNA, SAVED VICUNA' BECAME THE MOST REAL AND EFFECTIVE STRATEGY FOR ITS CONSERVATION.

The native communities that live close to the protected areas have also been benefited by the recovery of the species. Furthermore, in order to participate actively in the protection and capture of the animals, several groups from different localities have organized themselves to carry out the dehairing of vicuna fiber.

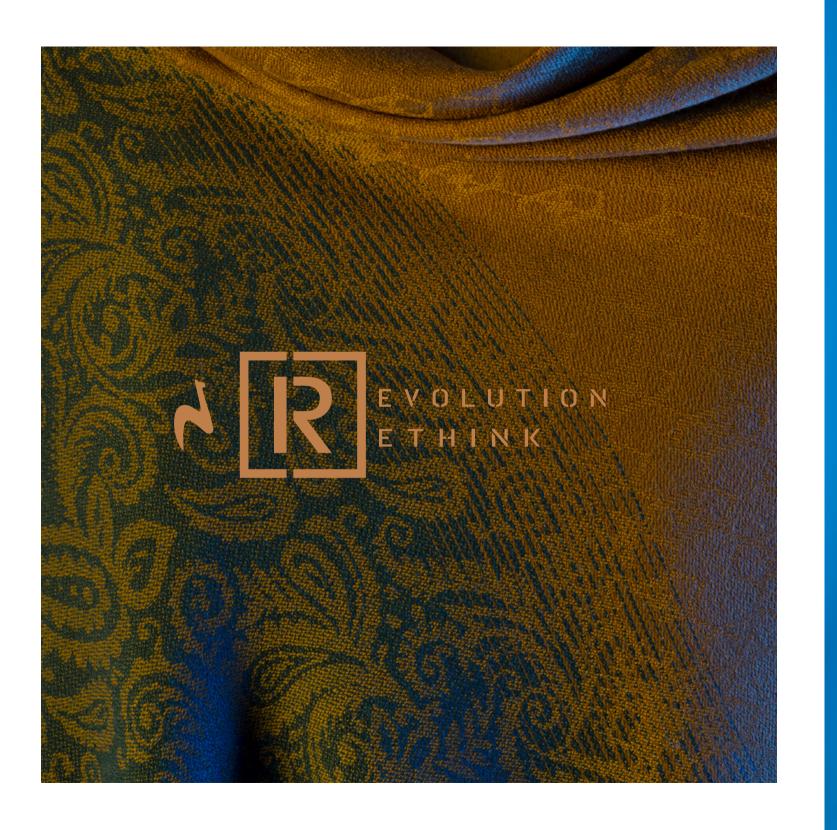
This consists of manually removing, one by one, the coarse guard hairs which occur among the fine hair of the vicuna and which in nature play an important protective role.

The Andean women also receive an additional income for carrying out this amazing task.

The sorting process is a skill that is obtained with the experience of the constant manipulation of the fiber; it is in this way that Andean women are included in the labor market, thus empowering themselves in a very conservative society.







"EVOLUTION IS THE SECRET FOR THE NEXT STEP"
KARL LAGERFELD FOR MANY YEARS,
INCALPACA HAS BEEN PROCESSING WITH SPECIAL
CARE VICUNA FIBER, FOR IT IS
THE FINEST AND MOST EXQUISITE.

WE HAVE DECIDED TO GO FURTHER WITH NEW DEVELOPMENTS SUCH AS: STRUCTURES, COLORS AND BLENDS IN ORDER TO ACQUIRE MORE VERSATILE GARMENTS.



PAISLEY FRAME JACQUARD SCARF Brushed scarf with twisted fringes PAISLEY FRAME JACQUARD SCARF Brushed scarf with twisted fringes D60016DP02 XXC0001 COBALT AND NATURAL VICUNA D60016DP02 XXC0002 BURGUNDY AND NATURAL VICUNA 100% VICUNA 180 X 30 cm. 140 gr.



MULTIPATTERNED SHAWL Jacquard shawl with twisted fringes

I60025DP08 XXC0001 BURGUNDY AND NATURAL VICUNA

> 100% VICUNA 200 X 70 cm. 210 gr.

MULTIPATTERNED SHAWL
Jacquard shawl with twisted fringes

I60025DP08 XXC0002 COBALT AND NATURAL VICUNA

> 100% VICUNA 200 X 70 CM. 210 GR.

HALF CARDIGAN BEANIE Knitted beanie JERSEY WITH RIB BEANIE Rib beanie K60Y210P00 540153 PALE BLUE K60Y212P00 5401 BURGUNDY

HALF CARDIGAN SCARF Knitted scarf

D60Y210P00 540153 PALE BLUE

> 100% VICUNA 180 x 30 cm. 200 gr. GAUGE 14

JERSEY SWEATER Roll crew neck sweater JERSEY SHAWI Knitted scarf A60Y224P00 160069 PALE PINK 60Y209P00 160069 PALE PINK 100% VICUNA GAUGE 14

BOUCLE SWEATER Knitted boucle sweater BOUCLE BEANIE Knitted boucle beanie A60Y219P00 840005 NATURAL VICUNA K60Y219P00 840005 NATURAL VICUNA 60% VICUNA 40% ROYAL ALPACA GAUGE 7 60% VICUNA 40% ROYAL ALPACA GAUGE 7



