

The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier :

From the Sidewalk to the Catwalk

FUNDACIÓN **MAPFRE**

The Instituto de Cultura of **FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE**
is pleased to invite you to the press conference
which will be held on 5 OCTOBER 2012 at 12 (noon) in the
FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE AUDITORIUM (Paseo de Recoletos 23) in
connection with the exhibition

**The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier :
From the Sidewalk to the Catwalk.**

FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE

Participants will include : Jean Paul Gaultier,
Alberto Manzano Martos, Chairman of FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE,
Pablo Jiménez Burillo, Director of the Instituto de Cultura,
Thierry-Maxime Lorient, Curator of the show and
Project Manager Fashion and Design
at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts,
and Nathalie Bondil, Director and Chief Curator
of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier : From the Sidewalk to the Catwalk.

Opening : 5 October 2012 between 17:00 - 21:00hrs

Press Conference : 5 October 2012 at 12:00 (noon)

Dates : 6 October 2012 – 6 January 2013

Place : FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE - RECOLETOS EXHIBITION HALL
Paseo de Recoletos 23, Madrid

Curator : Thierry-Maxime Lorient

Produced by : Montreal Museum of Fine Arts in association with
the Maison Jean Paul Gaultier, Paris and FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE



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The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier : From the Sidewalk to the Catwalk.

FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE is pleased to present the work of Jean Paul Gaultier for the first time in Spain, celebrating 35 years of creation by Jean Paul Gaultier. Initiated and produced by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA), this is the first international show dedicated to the designer, and aspires to be a groundbreaking project that sheds light on the artist, his work and his influence on the world.

The exhibition, more of a contemporary installation than a retrospective features 110 couture and prêt-à-porter ensembles and over 50 sketches, accompanied by audiovisual materials, excerpts from fashion shows and interviews, and early designs and photographs, all of which testify to Jean Paul Gaultier's daring, cutting-edge style and the genius and careful craftsmanship of his creations. This exhibition tour will present for the first time to the Spanish public the work of JPG and never seen before pieces like the two iconic corsets from Madonna's 1990 *Blond Ambition World Tour*.

Jean Paul Gaultier has close ties to Spain, as the designer recently admitted in an interview with the show's curator : *"As a boy, I travelled often to Spain with my parents, and I even dreamed of becoming a Spanish teacher ! But my greatest passion, fashion, was destined to become my profession. I've worked with a number of Spanish artists, such as Pedro Almodóvar - for whom I worked on three occasions, designing wardrobes for actresses like Rossy de Palma, Elena Anaya and Victoria Abril - and the flamenco dancer Joaquín Cortés. Spain's unique culture, from flamenco to the Madrid Movida, has always been a source of inspiration for me. I've reinterpreted its bolero jackets, fans and Sevillian shawls in several collections."*



PIERRE ET GILLES

JEAN PAUL GAULTIER, 1990

DESIGNED SPECIALLY TO ILLUSTRATE THE COVER OF THE AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL PHOTONOVEL *À NOUS DEUX LA MODE*

PAINTED PHOTOGRAPH, FRAMED BY THE ARTISTS
PRIVATE COLLECTION, PARIS

© PIERRE ET GILLES. COURTESY OF GALERIE JÉRÔME DE NOIRMONT, PARIS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY RAINER TORRADO

That affinity and the artist's collaborations with the Spanish film, fashion and dance industries - and with Pedro Almodóvar in particular - are well documented in this exhibition, for which the film director has loaned wardrobe items and sketches from *The Skin I Live In*, *Bad Education* and *Kika* that will only appear in the Madrid production.

Nathalie Bondil, Director and Chief Curator of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts started the project with the ambition of creating an exhibition about Jean Paul Gaultier because of his great humanity, his open minded vision of society where everyone can be proud and distinctive because of his/her own identity, far more than the technical virtuosity or the imagination his creations have.


Jean Paul Gaultier has often been called the *enfant terrible* of fashion, a sobriquet he has earned by demonstrating his ability to blend high and low culture, just as art had done before, and use the result in his creations. The street has been his source of inspiration as well as his ultimate goal for, like all great couturiers, his greatest desire is for his creations to be worn, lived in and seen by all the world.

With this goal in mind, FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE has decided to be a part of the tour organised by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts in collaboration with Maison Jean Paul Gaultier on an ambitious project. The exhibition kicked off in June 2011 in Montreal, after which it travelled to the Dallas Museum of Art and the de Young Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. Following its stint in Madrid, the show will journey to the Kunsthall Rotterdam in the Netherlands (February-May 2013), and the Arkitekturmuseet in Stockholm (June-September 2013).



CINDY SHERMAN
UNTITLED NO. 131, 1983

DADA COLLECTION, WOMEN'S PRÊT-À-PORTER
SPRING/SUMMER 1983
COLLECTION NEDA YOUNG
© COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND METRO
PICTURES



After having presented a retrospective on the life and work of Yves Saint Laurent, that great artist who liberated women without compromising on elegance, FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE was eager to examine the work of Jean Paul Gaultier, peeling back the superficial layer of humour to reveal its true importance as one of dominant aesthetic trends of the late 20^{ie}th and early 21st centuries.

Throughout his career, Jean Paul Gaultier has proclaimed the right to be different as a basic form of human self-expression.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue published by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts that documents and analyses Gaultier's entire career and influence on the industry from a chronological and conceptual perspective through interviews and essays by respected figures of the fashion world.

Throughout the galleries, thirty unique mannequins wearing remarkable wigs and headdresses by Odile Gilbert, founder of the *Atelier 68* in Paris, come 'alive' with interactive faces created by technologically ingenious audiovisual projections, surprising visitors with their life-like presence.

Poetic and playful, the production, design and staging of this dynamic audiovisual element has been produced by Denis Marleau and Stéphanie Jasmin of UBU/Compagnie de création from Montreal, Canada. A dozen celebrities, including Gaultier himself, have lent their faces –projected on to the mannequins – and often their voices to this project.

By definition, art constantly seeks out new ways of expressing and representing the context in which it originates. Throughout his career, Jean Paul Gaultier has proclaimed the right to be different as a basic form of human self-expression.

The Odyssey of Jean Paul Gaultier

THE EXHIBITION traces the life and work of the artist from his childhood and initiation in the fashion industry to the present day. The show is divided into six sections.

THE ODYSSEY of Jean Paul Gaultier introduces us to the couturier's universe by way of his trademark themes; sailors, mermaids and religious iconography set the tone of this section where his very first design (1971), never before exhibited, is also on display.



LEFT
ROMANTIC INDIA COLLECTION,
LASCAR GOWN
HAUTE COUTURE SPRING/SUMMER 2000
30TH ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE
CATWALK SHOW, OCTOBER 2006

© PATRICE STABLE / JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

RIGHT
MILES ALDRIDGE
IMMACULATE No. 3
NUMÉRO, MAY 2007
VIRGINS (OR MADONNAS) COLLECTION,
REGINA MARIS GOWN

HAUTE COUTURE SPRING/SUMMER 2007
ALEXANDER DANIELS COLLECTION, AMSTER-
DAM © MILES ALDRIDGE/TRUNKARCHIVE.COM

The Boudoir

THIS SECTION offers us a glimpse of Gaultier's childhood and early influences, dominated by the figure of his grandmother. The film *Falbalas* made a deep impression on the artist and shaped his ideas for dressing women : corsets, waist-cinchers and the latent subversion of Gaultier's choice to use undergarments as outerwear all stem from these early years, when he first got the idea of turning garments that have traditionally remained hidden from view into symbols of power.

Gaultier redesigned corsets, garters and underwear, taking them from the shadows of the intimate realm into the limelight.

Gaultier redesigned corsets, garters and underwear, taking them from the shadows of the intimate realm into the limelight. Cone-shaped bras and corset dresses have become empowering icons for women, when he brought feminine lingerie to the surface. This section includes two of Madonna's corsets which the couturier designed for her 1990 *Blond Ambition World Tour*, which the pop star has graciously loaned for this exhibition and another garment from her 2006 *Confessions Tour* and *MDNA World Tour* (2012)



SKETCH OF MADONNA'S STAGE COSTUME,
BLOND AMBITION WORLD TOUR, 1989-
1990

© JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

Skin Deep

SKIN - what he describes as being the first garment – and its various types of decoration have been a constantly renewed source of inspiration for the designer. Indeed, in Jean Paul Gaultier's hands, clothing becomes a second skin, sometimes through trompe-l'oeil effects that give the illusion of nudity (such as in the films of Pedro Almodóvar), a flayed human body (Mylène Farmer) or tattoos (Régine Chopinot).

Gaultier describes skin as being the first garment.

His creations are guided and his limitless imagination is illustrated by a fascination with skin. This section of the exhibition is also devoted to the Gaultier take on the male sex, with examples of couture designs, including his famous skirts for men.



LES HUSSARDES COLLECTION
INCOGNITO ENSEMBLE

HAUTE COUTURE AUTUMN/WINTER 2002-03
©PATRICK STABLE/JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

Punk Cancan

THROUGHOUT his career Gaultier has blended apparently contrasting styles and themes: the Parisian classicism and elegance in which he was born and lives, and the origin and development of the punk movement in London, which he discovered and embraced from its inception.

Gaultier always has blended apparently contrasting styles and themes : the Parisian classicism and elegance with the London Punk movement.

Parisian icons (Kiki de Montparnasse, Catherine Deneuve) and the symbols of his native city, such as the beret and the trench coat, are transformed under the influence of the imagery of Paris' Pigalle and London's tattooed punks. Latex, leather, lace and fishnet take on new meaning as symbols of elegant, convention-defying power.

This section features the special collaboration of Spanish urban graffiti artist SUSO33.



PARISIENNES COLLECTION

HAUTE COUTURE AUTUMN/WINTER 2010-11

© PATRICE STABLE / JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

Urban Jungle

GAULTIER MIXES and matches multiethnic influences in what he calls the urban jungle : the Bedouins of the Barbès district, New York rabbis, Chinese women dressed as flamenco dancers ; Russian influences, Bollywood maharajahs and the icons of Spanish culture come together to form a new aesthetic integrated in French haute couture.

To express these trends, he experiments with the use of leather, python skin, crocodile hide and different feathers from exotic animals.

Cultures from all around the world come together to form a new aesthetic integrated in French couture.



TRIBUTE TO AFRICA COLLECTION,
LA MARIÉE GOWN

HAUTE COUTURE SPRING/SUMMER 2005
© *PATRICE STABLE / JEAN PAUL GAULTIER*

Metropolis

BORROWING from the emerging sounds of new wave and house music in the 1970s, Gaultier explored the fields of high technology and science fiction. Since his first pieces of electronic jewellery and the High-Tech collection of 1979, he has always stayed ahead of the fashion pack : vinyl, Lycra, neoprene, three-dimensional fabrics and inflatable material are just some of his pivotal contributions to haute couture.

In his collaborations with pop-rock stars, filmmakers and choreographers, Jean Paul Gaultier proved his ability to continually shock and surprise. This section contains a special area dedicated to the sketches and wardrobe ensembles he produced for Pedro Almodóvar, including the sketch and nude bodysuit for the character of Vicente/Vera (Elena Anaya) in *The Skin I Live In* (2011) and the dress worn by Gael García Bernal in *Bad Education*.



LEFT
CAGES COLLECTION,
CALLIGRAPHIE GOWN

HAUTE COUTURE AUTUMN/WINTER 2008-09
© PATRICE STABLE / JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

RIGHT
WARDROBE SKETCH FOR *THE SKIN I LIVE IN*,
DIRECTED BY PEDRO ALMODÓVAR, 2011

© JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

Catalogue

THE SPANISH edition of the catalogue is published by the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, under the direction of Thierry-Maxime Lorient. It is the first major volume dedicated to Jean Paul Gaultier and features over 40 interviews with people who have collaborated and worked with him throughout his career, such as Pedro Almodóvar, Catherine Deneuve, Madonna, Helen Mirren, Martin Margiela and Dita Von Teese.

The publication also contains an essay by Suzy Menkes, reporter and fashion editor for *The New York Times* and *The International Herald Tribune*; two interviews with the artist, including one conducted by the show's curator Thierry-Maxime Lorient; a conversation with Valerie Steele, fashion historian and director of the Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology, New York, which naturally addresses Gaultier's impact on fashion, art and our times; and a transcript of the couturier's chat with fashion historian Florence Müller about the early years of his life.

It contains images and works never published until now, by the great names of fashion photography Warhol, Erwin Wurm or Mert & Marcus among others.



Website

FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE has developed a website dedicated solely to this exhibition in order to provide additional information on the contents of the show and make them available to the general public.

At www.exposicionesmapfrearte.com/jpg, internet users will be able to learn about the artist's career and view his most important works, take a high-quality virtual tour of all the galleries or listen to the opinions of the experts. Site visitors will also have the option of viewing an excerpt from the catalogue and consulting the details of workshops and tours.

In addition, the exhibition will be presented on the educational portal enredarte (www.enredarte.com), where families and children can continue to explore the show's contents through online games.

Educational Program

As it has been doing for the past several years, the Instituto de Cultura of **FUNDACIÓN MAPFRE** will offer workshop-tours of The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier : From the Sidewalk to the Catwalk for schoolchildren and families.