

Programme of Courses on Haute Couture Techniques

2024 Calendar

Conservation, research in and dissemination of the heritage linked to the figure of Cristóbal Balenciaga are focal and cohesive aspects of the mission at the Cristóbal Balenciaga Museum. In keeping with this undertaking, for several years the Museum has been exploring ways to convey the technical knowledge and procedures associated to Cristóbal Balenciaga's work. The Museum therefore runs various lines of action to promote an education programme drawing on technical documents and transmission, intending not only to highlight the immaterial facet of the designer's know-how, but to make said knowledge available to a new generation of fashion professionals.

Intensive practical courses taking place in their entirety at the Museum and offering participants an immersion in the Balenciaga universe. Added to this are the new online training options made possible by digital tools.

The programme offers three different itineraries: tailoring, fantasy and embroidery. It also comes in different levels of accomplishment enabling the participants to gradually improve their technical skills, with a total estimated dedication of 220 hours.

The course programme runs periodically throughout the academic year, offering participants the opportunity to follow an itinerary adapted both to their individual interests and to their availability.

TAILORING	Beginner, intermediate and advanced levels
	A series of techniques for making daywear, particularly suits, paying special attention to the use of woollen fabrics and the steps involved in hand-making lapels, collars, buttonholes, pockets and sleeves.
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FANTASY	Beginner, intermediate and advanced levels
	A series of techniques for making day, cocktail and bridal wear, with specific focus on fabrics such as silk, taffeta and lace, on internal structures like corsets, and on how to make gathering, apply organza, fine batting and fasteners.
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EMBROIDERY	Initiation level
	Specialised haute couture techniques on how to embroider by hand using the Lunéville method. Further content and levels will be added to this programme in the future.

TAILORING	Dates	Registration	Duration	Format
Level 1. Beginner	September 13-15	June 2024	20 hours	On-Site
Level 2. Intermediate I	January 29 February 18	December 2023	32 hours	Online
Level 2. Intermediate II [New]	May 6-26	March 2024	32 hours	Online
Level 3. Advanced	July 1-5	April 2024	35 hours	On-Site
FANTASY	Dates	Registration	Duration	Format
Level 1. Beginner	October 4-6	June 2024	20 hours	On-Site
Level 2. Intermediate	February 26 March 17	December 2023	32 hours	Online
Level 3. Advanced	July 8-12	April 2024	35 hours	On-Site
EMBROIDERY	Dates	Registration	Duration	Format
Level 1. Beginner	May 16-19	January 2024	28 hours	On-Site

Javier Martín

A regular collaborator of the Museum, Javier Martín teaches the tailoring and fantasy courses. He graduated at the Polytechnic University of Madrid as an Advanced Fashion Designer in 1991. During his formative years, he met Carmen and Emilia Carriches, workers at EISA Madrid and first assistants to the atelier manager, Felisa Irigoyen. From them he learned Cristóbal Balenciaga's specific dressmaking techniques and how he constructed his volumes.

Elisabeth Gasbarre

Elisabeth Gasbarre, who trained at the École Lesage in Paris, has worked in the Atelier Cécile Henri, producing creations for the Dior, Chanel and Azzaro collections. She has also worked for fashion designers and companies from several countries such as Hermès, Chafor, Alexis Mabille, Impasse 13, Didit Hediprasetyo and Francesca Fossati. As a professor, she teaches at her atelier in Lyon as well as in other parts of France and fashion centres around the world.

The Museum reserves the right to change the above course dates or to partially or completely cancel the programme for reasons of force majeure.

Aldamar Parkea 6
20808 Getaria
T +34 943 008 840
info@crislobalbalenciagamuseoa.com
www.crislobalbalenciagamuseoa.com

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