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CRISTÓBAL BALENCIAGA MUSEOA

In-depth Study
of Haute Couture
Techniques

Fantasy Itinerary

In an interest to promote excellence and greater technical knowledge in the professional fashion sector, the Museum presents the first advanced course in the specific methods used by workers at the Balenciaga Maison's fantasy ateliers.

The training—running for five days—will include demonstrations of his sewing and pressing techniques. Furthermore, to ensure that the participants achieve practical skills in these techniques, they will produce different parts of a dress. Specifically, making a strapless bodice finished with a ribbon cut on the bias, paying special attention to the structure of the inner corselette and all of the typical fastening and finishing techniques used in fantasy workrooms as well as the creation of ruffles, application of organzas, fine battings and fasteners.

PROGRAMME

- I. PRESENTATION OF THE COURSE AND OF THE PROGRAMME
- II. THE FANTASY ATELIER
 - A. The materials, silk fabrics and how to work with them
 - B. Typical fantasy constructions
 - C. Marking and cutting techniques
 - D. Positioning prints
 - E. Adapting the design to the fabric
 - F. Reinforcements, paddings and other accessories
- III. PRACTICAL EXERCISE:
MAKING AN INNER CORSELETTE
 - A. Preparing and cutting the bodice
 - B. Seams and the application of strips for boning
 - C. Application of tulle cups
 - D. Breast pads
 - E. Assembling the boning
 - F. Zip and grosgrain finishes on the neckline
- IV. PRACTICAL EXERCISE:
PREPARING AND CUTTING A STRAPLESS BODICE
 - A. Preparing and pressing the fabric
 - B. Matching and marking the pieces
 - C. Cutting the lining
 - D. Cancan ruffle
- V. PRACTICAL EXERCISE:
MARKING AND BASTING
 - A. Tailor's tacks and marks
 - B. Basting the bodice
 - C. Basting the waistline and first fitting
 - D. Adjustments and alteration
- VI. PRACTICAL EXERCISE:
ALTERING AND COMPOSING THE BODICE
 - A. Making the required alterations
 - B. Basting and sewing the main seams
 - C. Pressing techniques
 - D. Fitting the zip with organza bias binding
 - E. Application of a decorative strip complete with bow
 - F. Combined fastenings, zip, poppers, hooks and eyes

PROGRAMME

- VI. PRACTICAL EXERCISE:
ASSEMBLING THE GATHERING
- A. Marking the hem of the bodice
 - B. Applying organza to the edges and sewing the hemming stitch
 - C. Lining the panel and overcasting the allowance
 - D. Running stitch for gathering
 - E. Gathering the panel and hand sewing it in place
 - F. Placing the lining at the waist
- VII. PRACTICAL EXERCISE:
ASSEMBLING THE FACING BY HAND IN DOUBLE GARMENTS
- A. Marking the pieces
 - B. Applying fine batting to the inner piece
 - C. Making the inner and outer hems
 - D. Basting and hand-sewing the edge
- VIII. PRACTICAL EXERCISE:
OTHER FANTASY TECHNIQUES
- A. Covered hooks and eyes and thread loops
 - B. Lining poppers
 - C. Organza piping for inner finishes
 - D. Applying feathers

Javier Martín

Javier Martín, resident in Madrid though originally from Ávila, graduated at the Polytechnic University of Madrid as Senior Fashion Designer in 1991. During his formative years, he met Carmen and Emilia Carriches, seamstresses at the EISA workshop in the capital and first assistants of the head couturier, Felisa Irigoyen. From them he learned the specific dressmaking techniques of the couturier from Getaria and acquired knowledge on the construction of volumes that would shape his designs.

For ten years, he was part of the team at Sybilla, until 2005, when he decided to create his own brand, Nihil Obstat, focused on Haute Couture. He combines his activity as a designer with collaborations with other creative artists such as Carmen March, Jesús del Pozo or Joaquín Trías, the latter the grandson of a model of the Balenciaga house, to whom he provides technical advice. He worked from 2012 to 2019 for the Spanish company DELPOZO, taking care of the modelling and development of the volumes of part of the collection and developing luxury prêt-à-porter garments with an international projection.

Also a lecturer, he has participated in educational projects of the Spanish Government's Ministry of Education, and has given lectures on design and modelling at the Centro Superior de Diseño de Moda of the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, the European Design Institute of Madrid, and at the Estación Diseño school in Granada, among others. Since 2015, he has been collaborating with the Cristóbal Balenciaga Museoa education programme compiling and transmitting the sewing techniques used at the Balenciaga House ateliers.

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INFORMATION

DATES

From July 19 to 23, 2021.

TIMETABLE

10:00 - 14:00 / 15:00 - 18:00

Total dedication of 35 hours.

LANGUAGE

Spanish.

PARTICIPANTS

Those holding qualifications in Fashion Design, Pattern Design and/or Dressmaking, fashion professionals, and all those interested in gaining deeper knowledge of haute couture fantasy techniques. Especially recommended for people who have previously completed the initiation course in Haute Couture Fantasy Techniques organised by the Museum.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

The maximum number of participants will be 16 people. The participants will be selected based on the required documentation and place allocations will be communicated from June 4.

REQUIREMENTS

Those interested in participating must be able to prove that they have prior knowledge of haute couture techniques and that they are capable of cutting, basting and sewing a garment.

REGISTRATION

Registration will be open from the date on which the course is announced until May 30 (inclusive, at 23:59), and those wishing to participate must complete the online registration form. Candidates are required to submit a curriculum vitae specifying their training and experience in the world of fashion, as well as a motivation letter stating why the candidate wishes to participate in the activity and their connection to its content. Applications which are incomplete or received after the given deadline will not be accepted.

INFORMATION

PRICE

445 €. The price includes the materials required to proceed with the exercises, valued at 40 euros. The Museum will provide a kit with the necessary material, including pique cotton or similar, cotton trim, tulle, muslin, and all of the accessories need to proceed with the exercises proposed. The participants must, in turn, come equipped with basic sewing tools (scissors, pins & needles, thread, measuring tape, tailors chalk, etc.).

The Museum has established a protocol to guarantee fulfilment of the health measures in place to ensure the safety of training activities and has therefore adapted the way it functions and its spaces to guarantee the well-being of its staff and its visitors.

PLACES LIMITED / REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

In the event of failing to meet the minimum number of participants, all interested parties will be informed of the activity cancellation and any registration fees paid will be refunded.

A certificate of attendance will be issued at the end of the activity.

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Biarritz — 71km	GPS
Bilbao — 81km	43° 18'6.92" N
Donostia/San Sebastián — 25km	2° 12' 18.77" W
Iruña-Pamplona — 97km	
Vitoria-Gasteiz — 83km	