



GIAMBATTISTA VALLI HAUTE COUTURE, A LOVE LETTER TO WOMEN

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DISCOVER THE SAVOIR-FAIRE BEHIND THE HAUTE COUTURE 24 COLLECTION

In essence, the world of haute couture is escapism, yet the collections of one Roman designer resonates with this concept like no other. Could it be thanks to the fact that Giambattista Valli launched his first haute couture collection in 2011, at the height of international dark times? From the outset, a clear vision was created, that of a hyper femininity, an haute couture style which helps reveal a woman's inner princess. Attribute it to Valli's dual 'citizenship' - a Roman heritage combined with a Parisian adoption which enables him to combine the best of both worlds. The quintessential Italian Dolce Vita composed of free-spiritedness and well-dosed extravagance paired with French savoir-faire, aka the quest for excellence.





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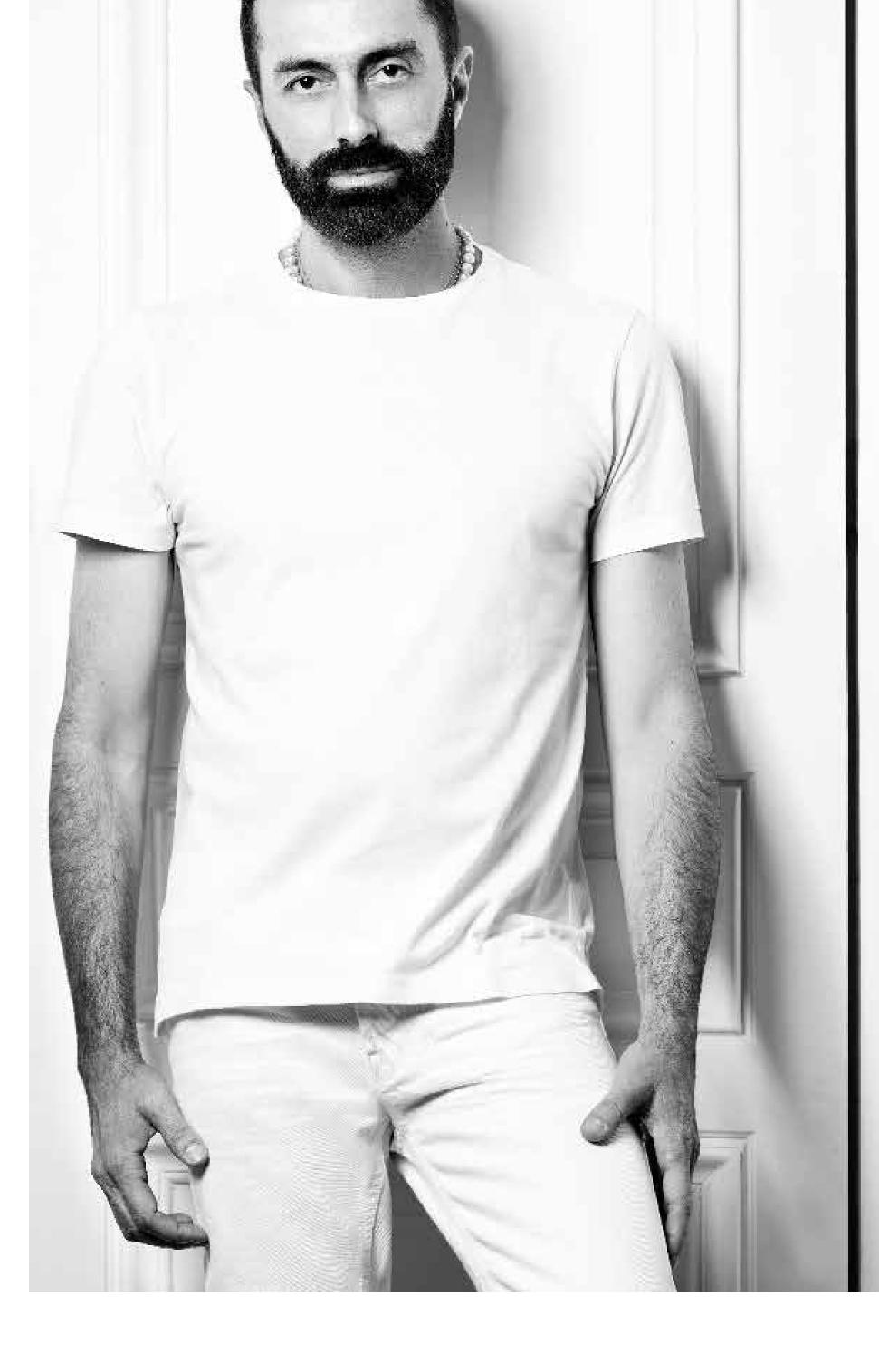
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The official portrait of Mr Giambattista Valli.

Distributed in key cities around the world (Doha, Milan, New York and Seoul), it is, however, in the French standalone boutique in Galerie de la Madeleine at 30 rue Boissy d'Anglas, Paris that the full Giambattista Valli experience is available (the ready-to-wear lines). With a confidential front window (blink and you could miss it) in which the name is subtly inscribed in black over a dark grey textured backdrop while a red halo glows from the bottom up. Two tall tiered pagoda-style ceramics greet you at the entrance before stepping into a Milanese cum Parisian "palazzo", a testament of effortless sophistication. It is a space shielded from the outside brouhaha. The old structure (stone walls, beams) has been kept and married to modernist, clean and sculptural lines (mirror shelving, recessed lighting) while not comprising on being furnished for comfort via lavish textures (banquettes, spacious changing rooms). The interior décor is an exercise in functionality and style, the definition of Valli's sensual luxury. Make a note: 30 rue Boissy d'Anglas in the 8th arrondissement.





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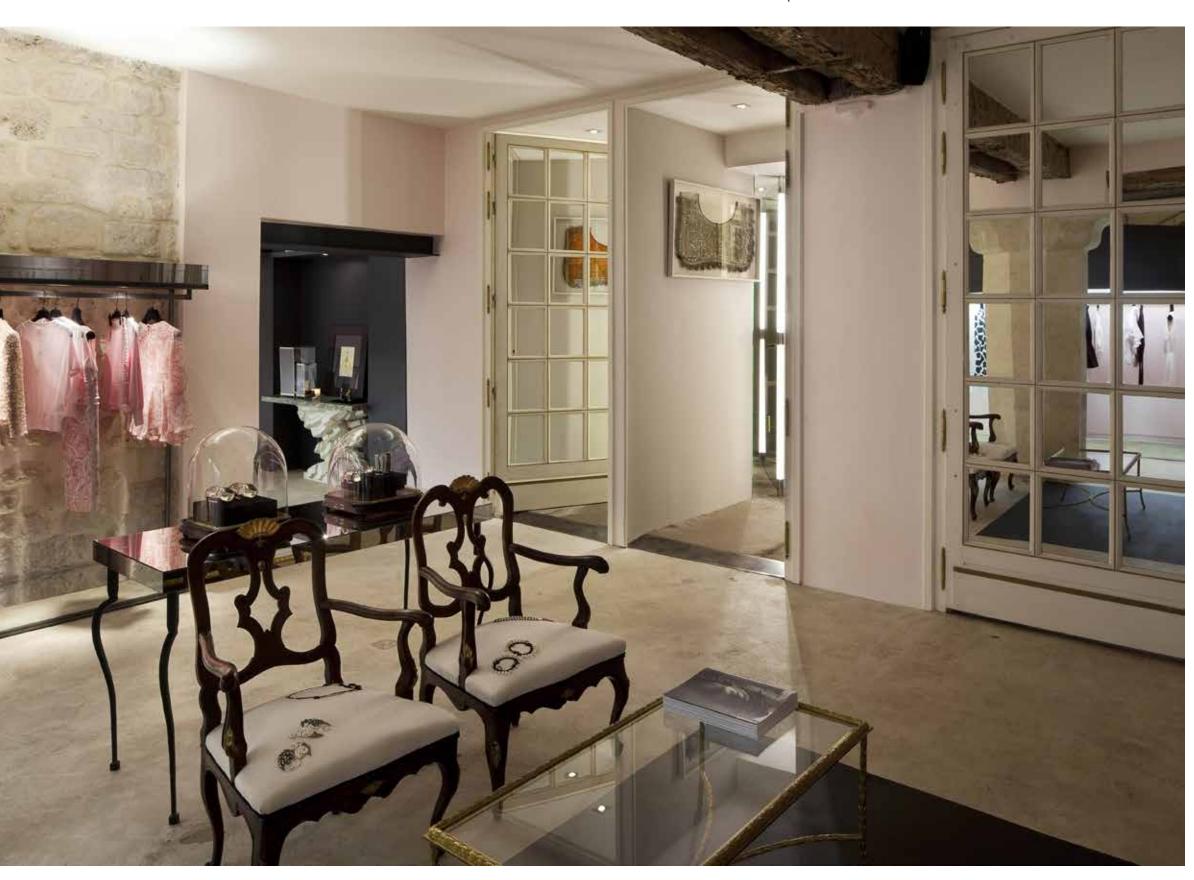
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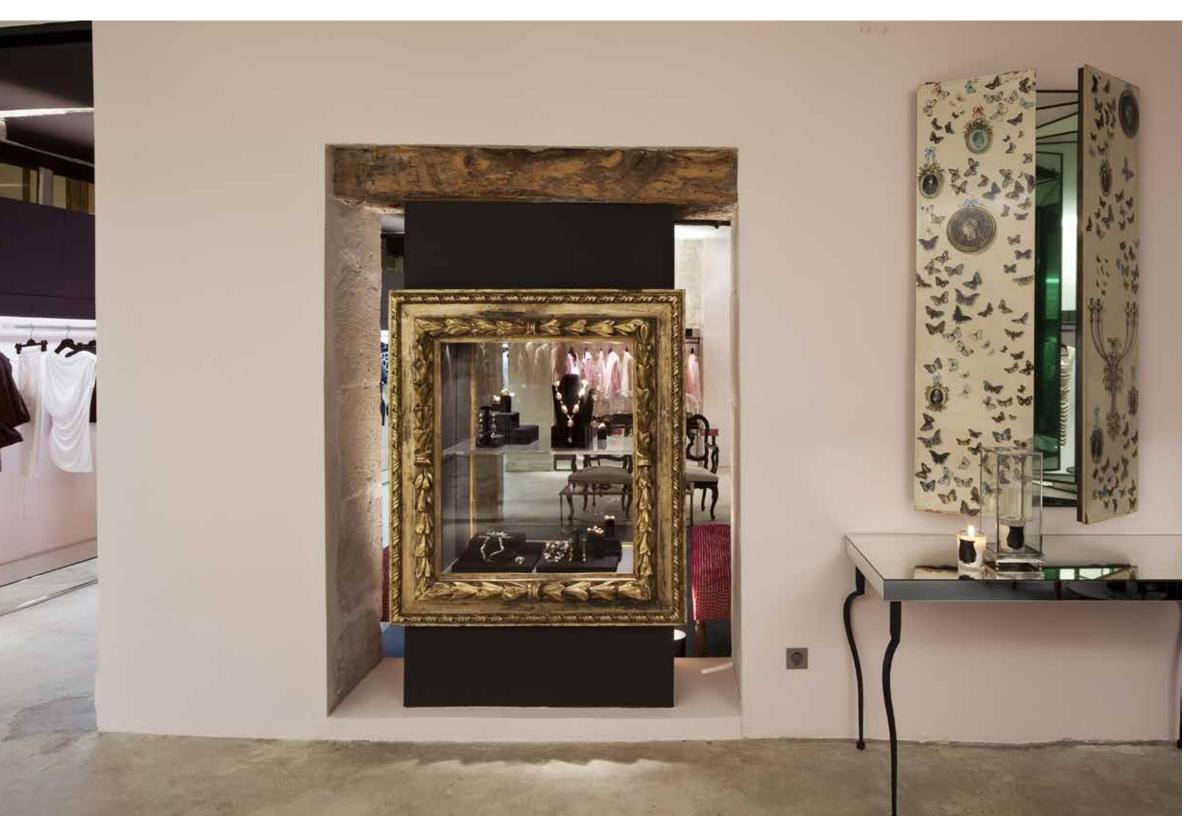


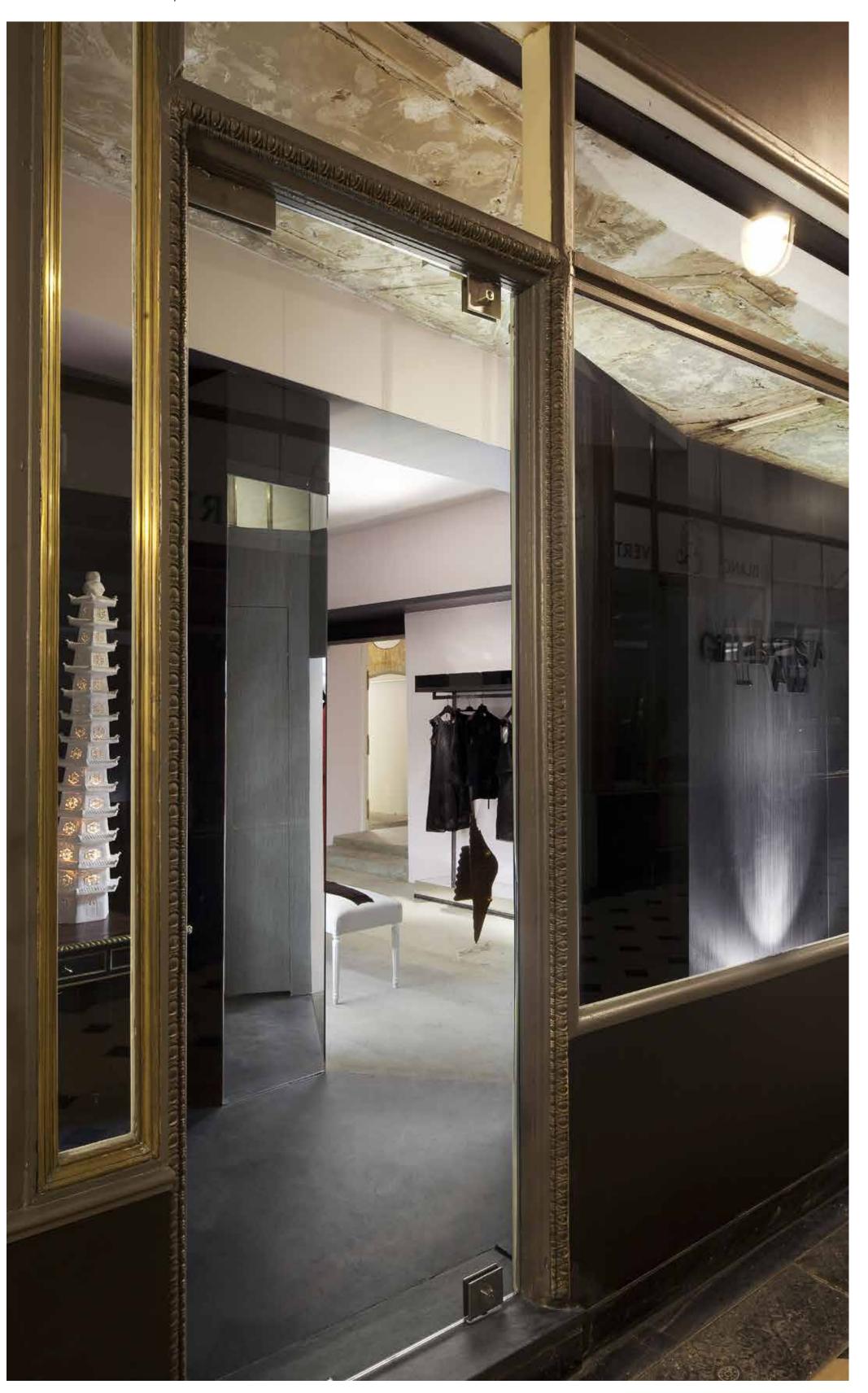
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The Parisian boutique at 30 rue Boissy d'Anglas is a "palazzo", a testament of effortless sophistication.







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aquamarine duochrome draped dress.







From a very young age, Valli has always been fascinated by how glamour could free and illuminate one's persona – a theory which he practiced on his first mannequin, a Barbie doll, whose outfits he pleaded the seamstress of his grandmother to make.

Time has passed while Valli's couture has garnered momentum along with a loyal patronage of royals, A-listers and female entrepreneurs alike. Time has passed and one element also became quickly apparent: Giambattista Valli's haute couture does not follow any trends. It steadily remains true to its feminine aesthetics made of joyful codes: bows, flounces, ruching and metre upon metre of tulle. Don't get the wrong idea: there is nothing childlike in Valli's totemic dresses. Only he could translate such romantic symbols and sartorial techniques into empowering silhouettes...all the more skillful when resorting to a colour palette of pastels and sherbet hues in the latest number 24 collection (Spring-Summer 2023).

Indeed, the collections have no title but a chronological ranking to distinguish them; surely something to contemplate how far the house of Valli has come, but also to look towards an open-ended future.





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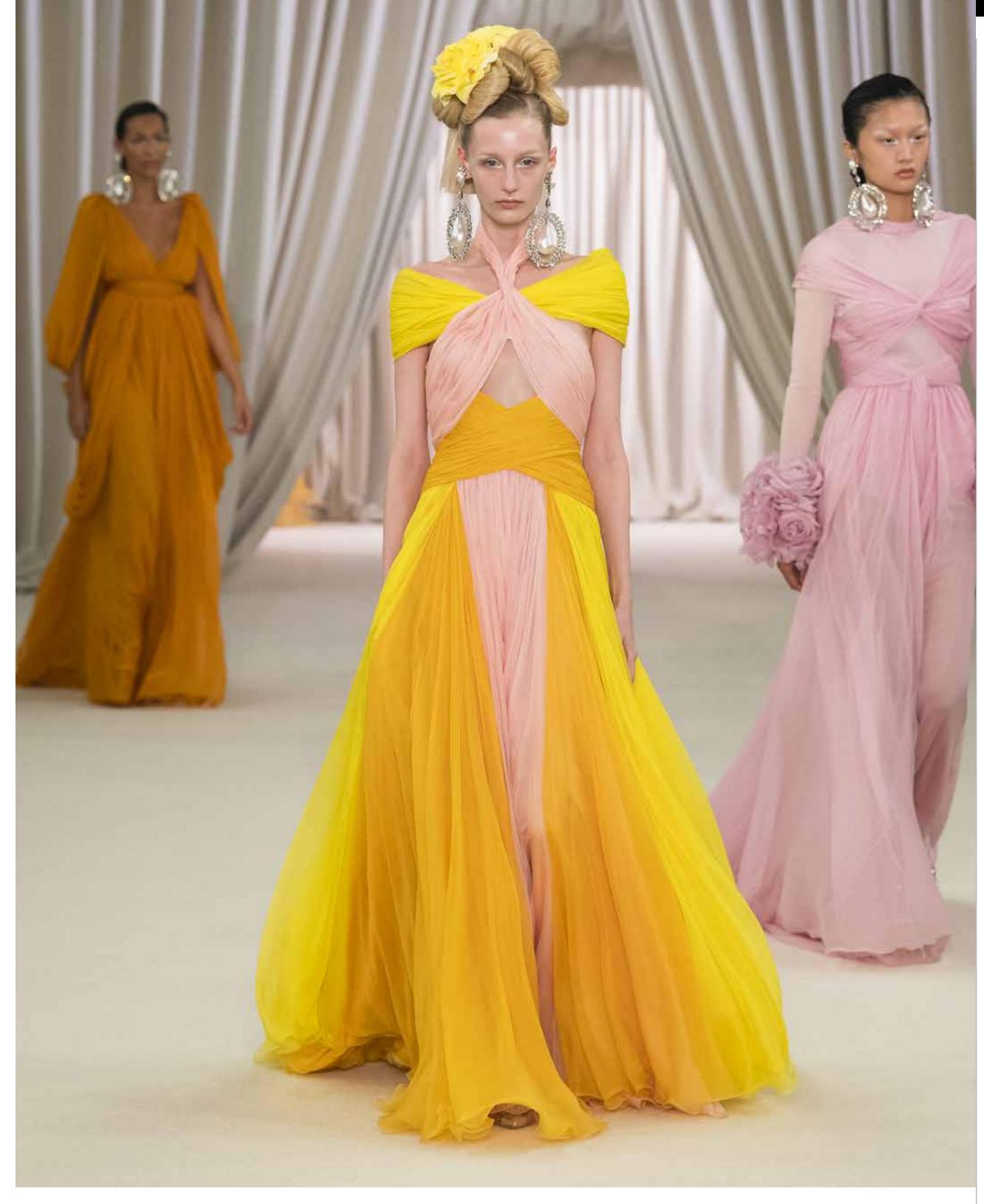
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Look 8 (centre) - Sunset effect silk muslin draped long dress; Look 5 (right) - Primerose silk muslin draped bodysuit-dress with silk organdis roses; and Look 6 (left) - Saffron silk muslin draped long dress.







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Number 24 is a symbol of duality between the material and spiritual words, and it might not be by chance that the Valli collection of the same name bridges both concepts. Flower women meet sensual caryatids. Flowy, expansive and voluminous gowns - some with same-tone bouquet cuffs, others fitted with butterfly-spreading coats and mermaid-style dresses with a tight waist and spreading base come in pastel hues mixed with vibrant mango, lemon and cherry tones. A skirt in floral-printed fabrics whose rose motifs are replicated in a matching embroidered bolero jacket makes the most of black and pink, while a cream ball gown made of a rose branch-printed silk georgette is a feat of symmetrical swathing and billowing sleeves.





Looks 32 (left), 24 (centre) and 30 (right).

Look 32 (left) - Pastel pink silk muslin "Venus" dress worn with a ruffled tulle shawl; Look 24 (centre) - Rose quartz crystal mesh jumpsuit draped with silk muslin; Look 30 (right) - "Swan" silk crepe "Venus"

dress with silk duchesse bow details.

Fitted metallic silhouettes show off more skin, like liquid bronze knotted over the body. The two worlds collide in silhouettes for which silk georgette is draped around a sequined-mesh jumpsuit, sarong-style; or a lattice-lace, light gold mini dress is equipped with a huge tulle train in a gradient of coral and soft pink.

Black bows play contrast on an ivory-coloured asymmetrical rendition (they seem to hold in place the various slits that threaten to open - one on the bust side, the other on the opposite hip); and rose-shaped bows bloom on another gown with an exposed mid-riff.





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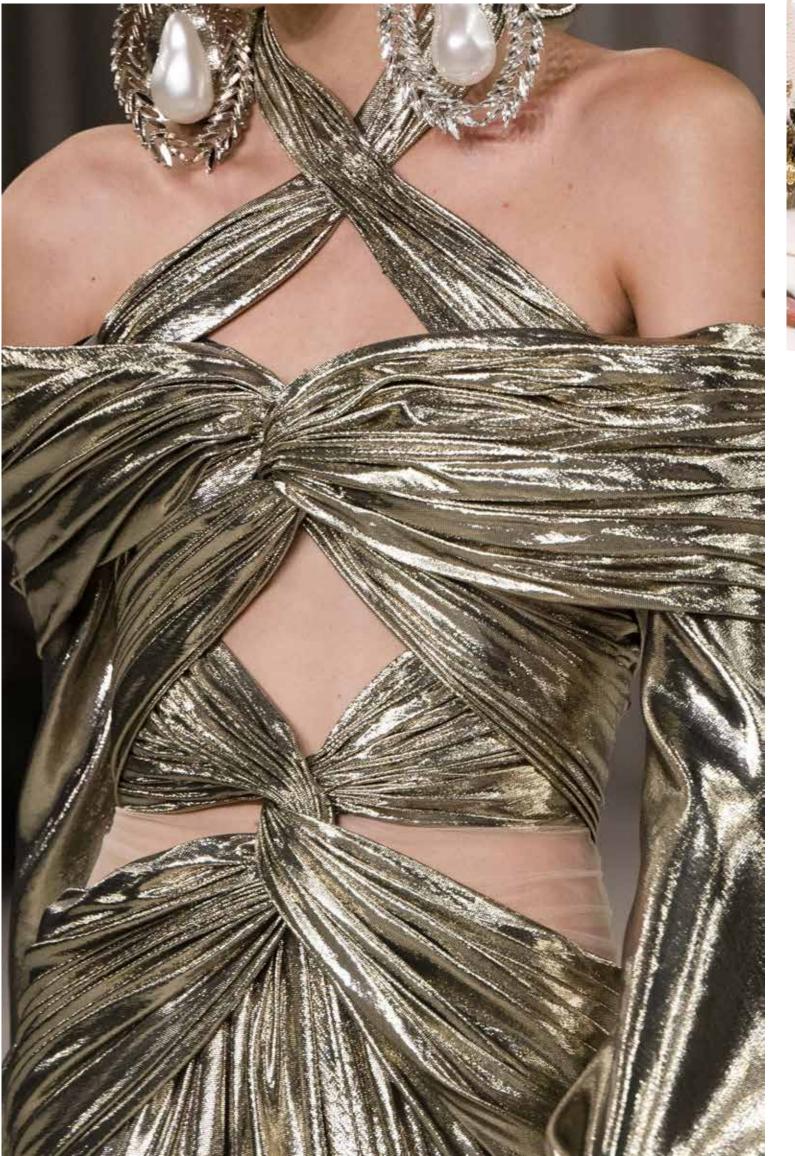
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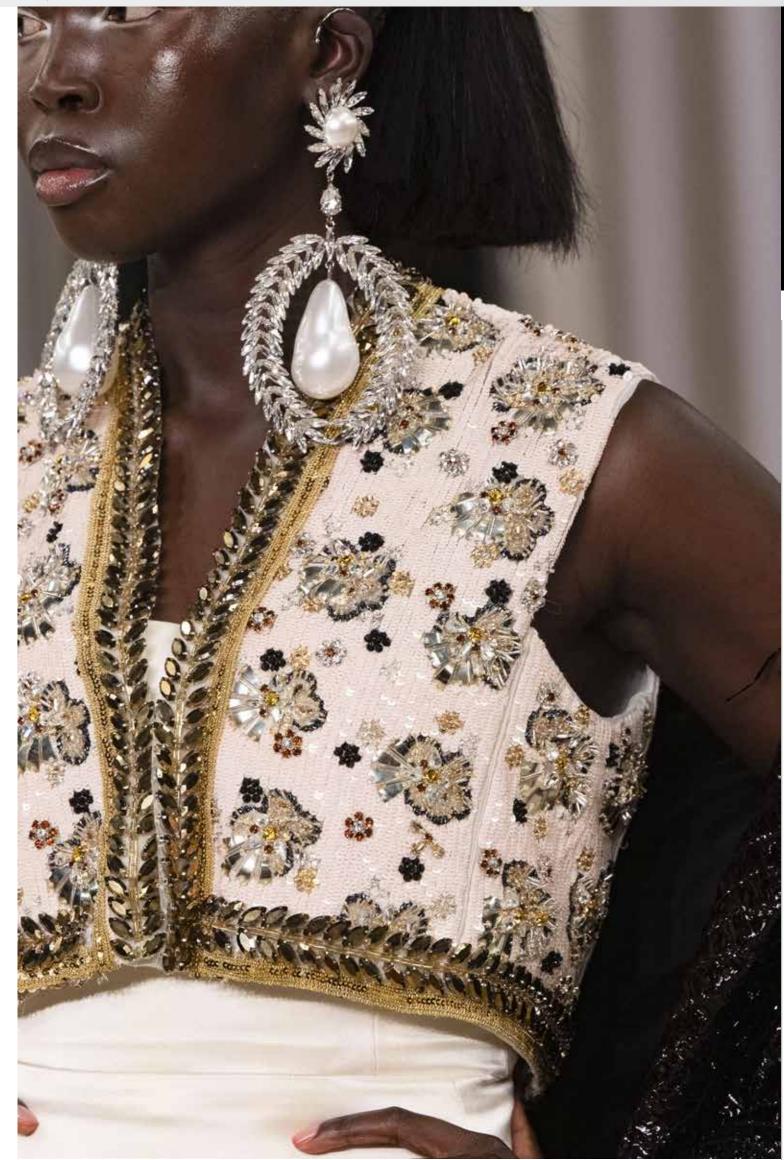


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Focus on Look 20 (left and centre)
- Ensemble comprised of a lamé
draped long dress and of a silver
lurex jacquard cape; and Look 17
(right) - Ensemble comprised of an
"onyx" lurex jacquard coat, a floral
crystals and sequins embroidered
vest and an ivory silk duchesse
bustier dress.







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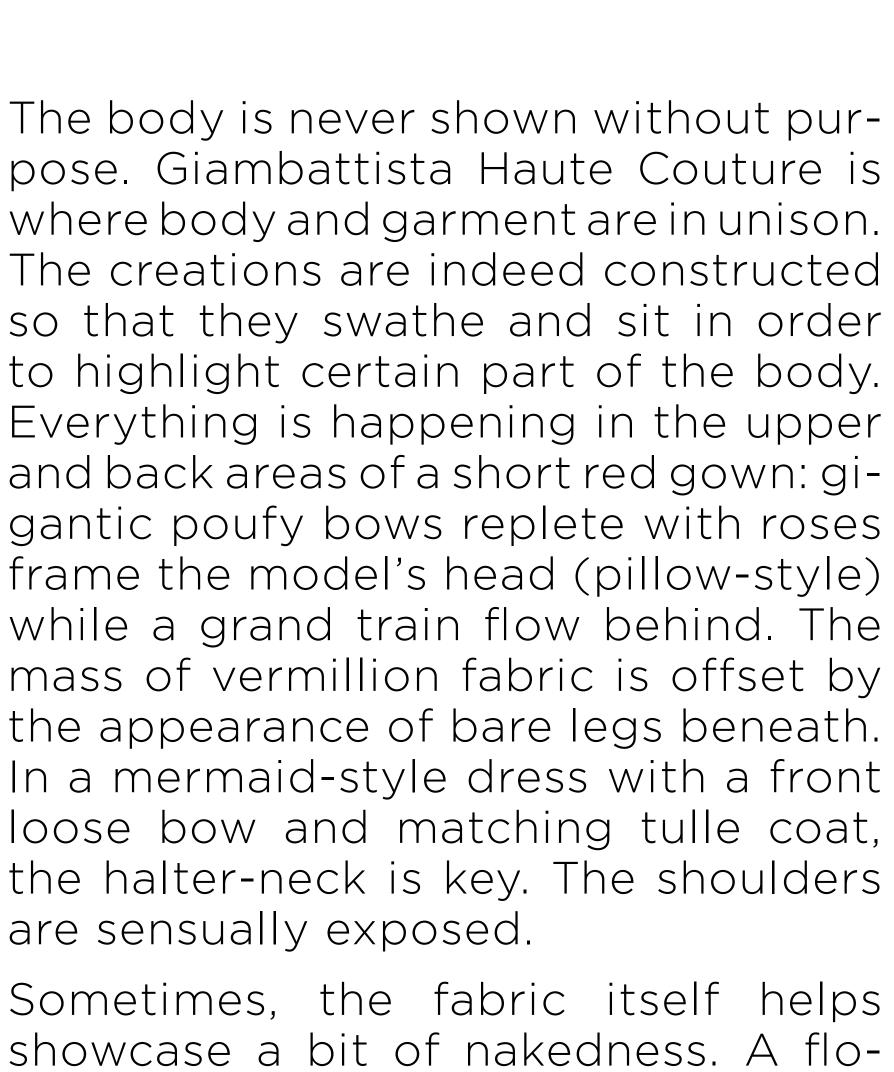
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Look 39 - Red rose silk taffeta dress with



ral-patterned devoré lace tube dress creates an overall tattoo effect of the most ravishing result. The body glistens thanks to the silver rhinestone embroideries, while white feathers adorn the base. A silk faille coat allows one to cover.

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Focus on Look 25 - Long dress entirely embroidered with "Splash" ostrich and coquetips multicolour feathers.

Feathers are essential to an exercise in ethereality. In terracotta red with accents of black over a pale pink dress; long and thin in yellow and pink (the plumage of a hybrid bird) for an enveloping coat; or greyish blue with hints of neon pink and yellow for an all-over cocoon-type garment.

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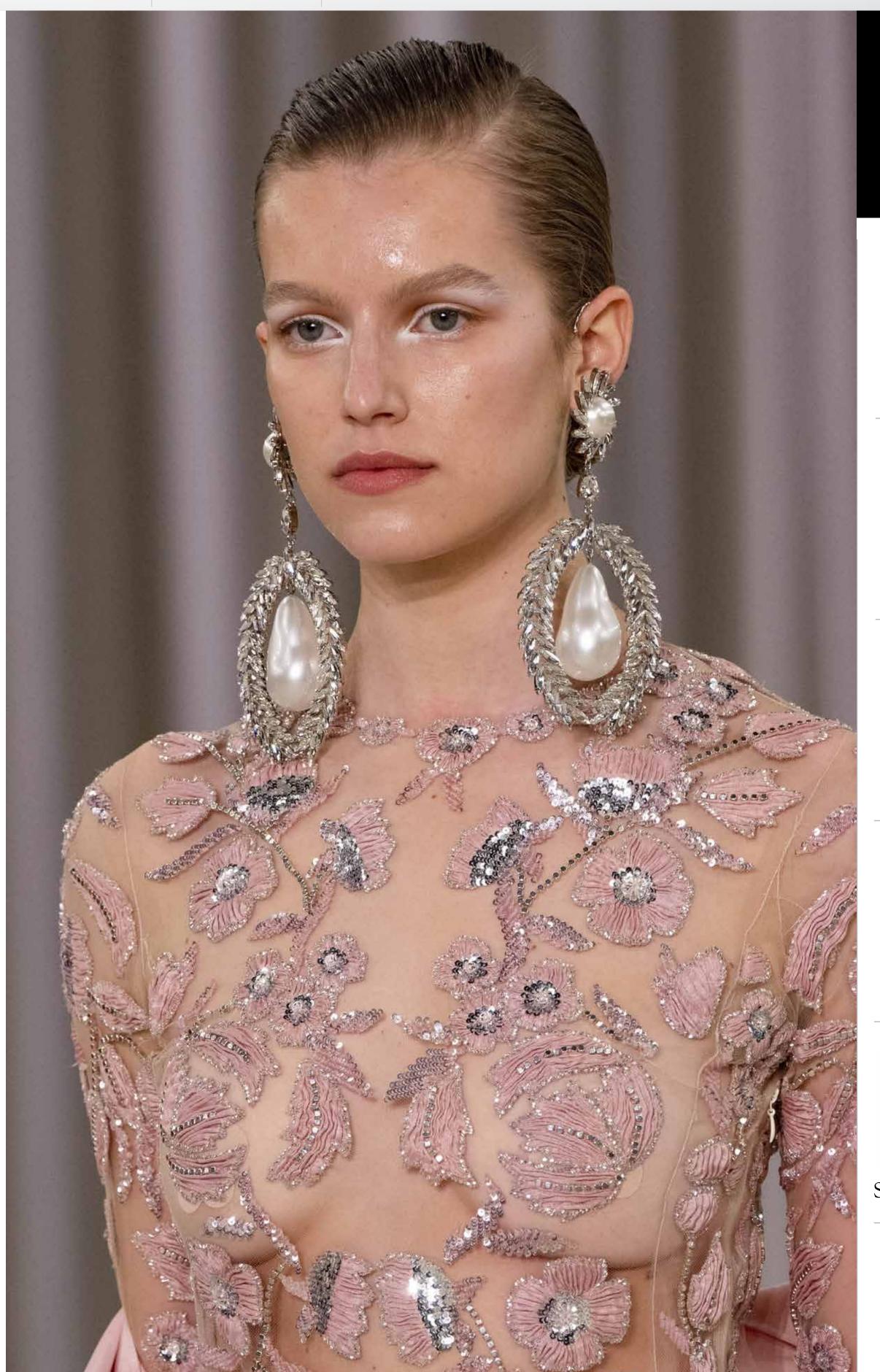


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Focus on Look 19 - Ensemble comprised of an "illusion" flower ramage embroidered dress, trimmed with silk organza petals, and a "peonie" silk faille coat.

Held at the Pavillon Vendôme in Paris, which was dressed for the occasion with giant pale pink curtains and mirror columns, Collection 24 is testament to Valli's cohesive vision for female beauty, not least thanks to the pendant earrings featuring oversized baroque pearls surrounded by a rhinestoned laurel leaf wreath, which all models have been wearing during the runway show. Further prominent accessories conveying a Cinderella vibe are crystal-set strappy sandals with sculptural pearl heels as well as metallic silver or black satin mules with little bows and discoball heels.







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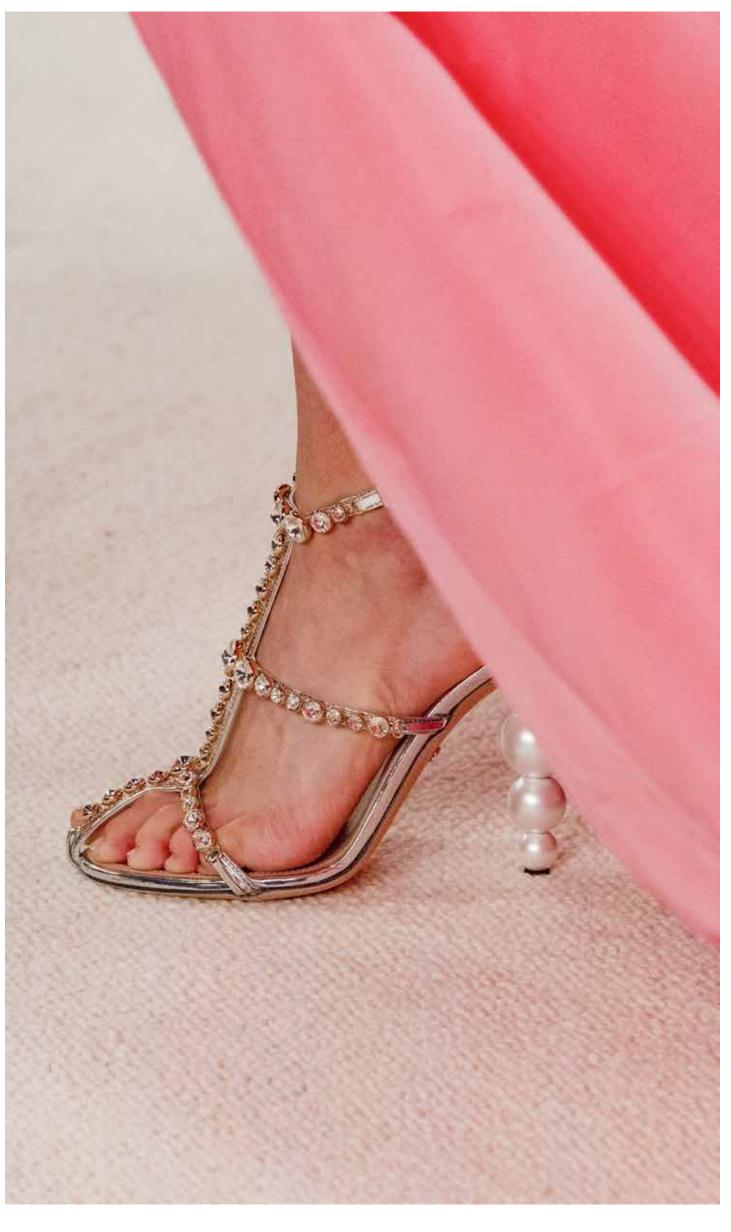
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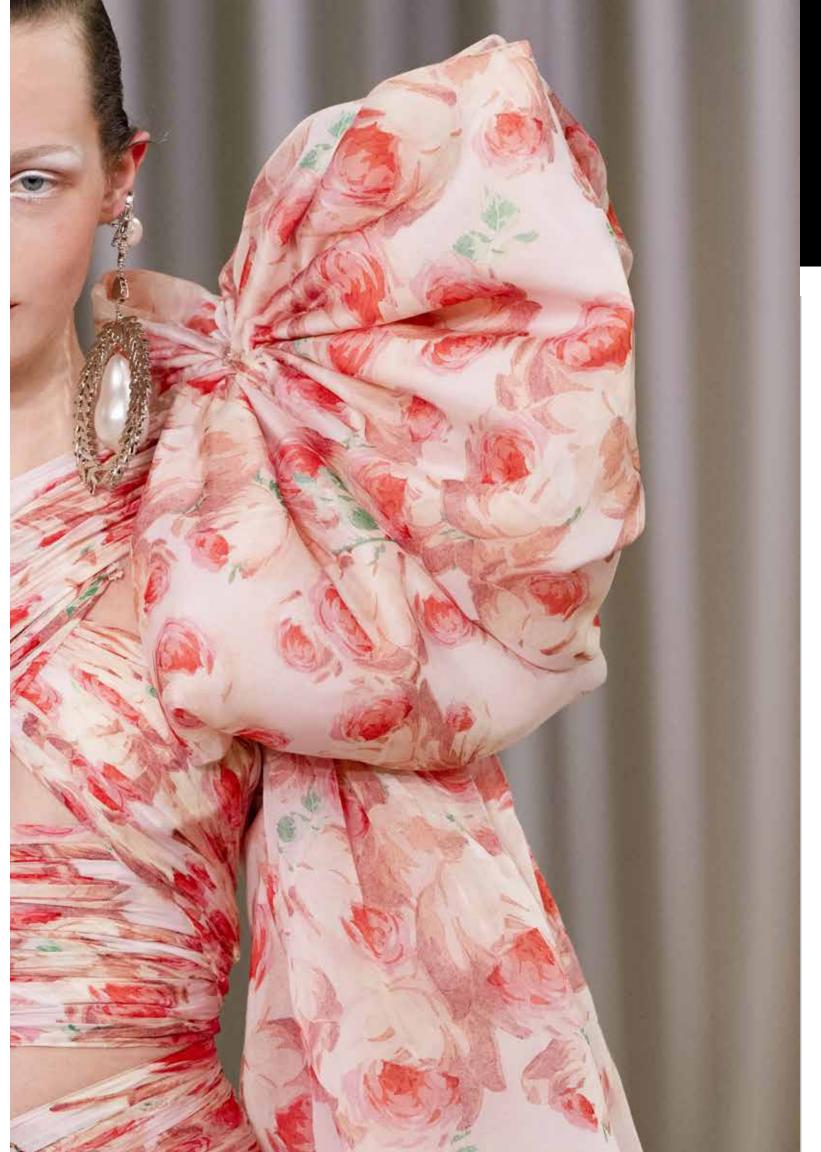


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Focus on Look 11 (left) - Suit comprised of a "Cherry flowers" sequins and crystal embroidered jacket and light pink silk faille pants; Look 34 (shoes) and Look 15 (right) - "Rose Obsession" printed silk muslin draped dress with oversize bows.











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Collection 24 is yet again proof that Giambattista Valli's hedonistic haute couture designs warp our sense of balance and amaze us with their ingenuity. They embolden as well as intoxicate, giving women the ability to feel confident about their femininity. It is obvious that the Roman designer delights in beauty, especially anatomically. Perhaps his creations are also an indication of his enduring love for the arts, women of all ages being his muses.





This creative philosophy runs through every Valli's creations, with each new Haute Couture collection fuelling the concepts behind each ready-towear line. There is always a direct inspiration from the former coming to life into the latter. After all, the Giambattista Valli woman is multi-faceted and while she has many occasions to wear the splendid haute couture gowns, her busy lifestyle means that the ready-to-wear version offers a pared-down, more versatile option for everyday life... without losing on Valli's aesthetics. The latest example of this synergy is to be found in the main Spring Summer 2023 ready-to-wear collection (that offers effortless feminine looks for day and night). The signature swathing of fabric with exposed cut-outs, the carefully positioned bows, the ravishing floral prints (Maxi peony, India bouquets, Muguet paisley, Coquelicots...), the expansive skirts...undeniably refer to details and motifs from Collection 24. The Spring Summer 2023 collection - Capri and Miami are calling - has also been an opportunity to experiment further with some of the techniques used for the haute couture line. Take the golden braided ribbons used to delineate the contour of a sleeveless short dress or a bra and skirt ensemble; or the cannage technique transposed into a print (the Vienna Straw print). Models with turbans and sunglasses exude cool and chic, an attitude reinforced by silhouettes made of a printed top paired with a colour-block skirt. The lineage between haute couture and ready-to-wear is even more apparent when spotting the oversized earrings (now fitted with colourful stones instead of baroque pearls).

Looks from the Spring Summer 2023 ready-to-wear collection.







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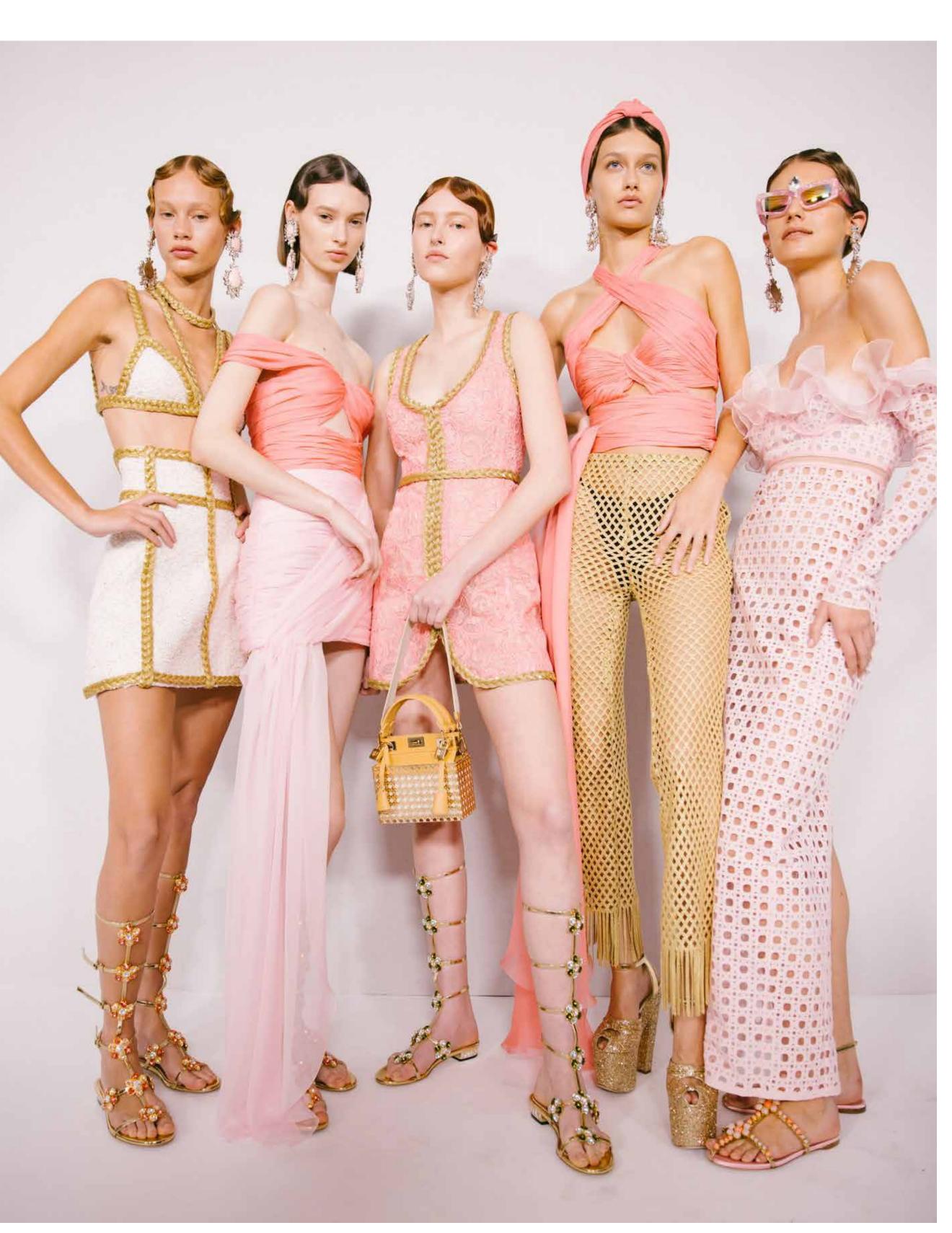
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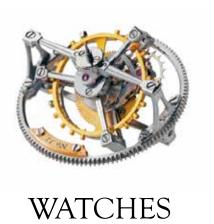


Looks from the Spring Summer 2023 ready-to-wear collection.

The Spring Summer 2023 ready-to-wear collection is now available online and in boutiques. "It is meant to be a journey." The Valli woman packs up her suitcase to explore the world and collect pieces from her travels. Giambattista Valli's idea for Spring-Summer 2023 was to translate his emotions into a flow of beauty, of moments and gestures interpreted through a silhouette, textures and a chromatic scale. Sensorial spheres melt into each other to create a synesthetic flux of Mr. Valli effortless and touching visions. The spirit is nomadic; borders smudge into each other and cease to exist. Curiosity for new cultures and ideas will bring you everywhere", Giambattista Valli shares.

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