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IN-STORE

Jean Paul Gaultier unveils Swarovski jewelry line at Paris Couture Week

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Jean Paul Gaultier's Kaput collection

By STAFF REPORTS

French fashion label Jean Paul Gaultier has teamed with precision cut-crystal maker Swarovski on a line of couture jewelry.



The collection, which debuted during the fashion label's Paris Couture Fashion Week presentation on Jan. 28, is called Kaput. The collection is ironically titled considering the brand decided to eliminate its ready-to-wear, pre-fall and secondary lines, to place additional attention on costume jewelry and accessories.

Not kaput

Jean Paul Gaultier's Kaput collection included large, double-faced imperfect stones that are made of heavy metals. Some pieces are opaque and some are shining, some stones are transparent where others are dark.

Additional pieces to the collaboration are set to be unveiled sometime in July.

The brand's namesake founder told WWD that, "Kaput – it means what it means; it's a broken stone. What's incredible is that it's reversible, one color on one side, another color on the other side, and there are fractures. It's very Cubist and Art Deco-ish in a way."



Kaput collection by Jean Paul Gaultier and Swarovski

Jean Paul Gaultier's Kaput collection will be featured in Swarovski's multi-brand jewelry store, Cadenzza. Considered a "concept store – but for jewelry-only," the shop offers collections from the likes of Valentino, Roberto Cavalli and Versace.

Fiona Swarovski, granddaughter of the brand's founder, the design director of Cadenzza, was in attendance at the Jean Paul Gaultier couture show to see the pieces first hand. Ms. Swarovski is currently planning the opening of five more Cadenzza boutiques, in addition to its existing 27.

Swarovski often emphasizes its ties to fashion. For instance, Swarovski hand-picked a number of fashion designers to show at the 2014 Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York as part of its Swarovski Collective.

In addition to providing financial support to the designers, the brand gave them crystals to use in their designs. Swarovski was able to showcase its own creativity through this project, as well as show its good citizenship within the fashion industry (see story).

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