

EVENTS/CAUSES

Valentino pays homage to founder with largest exhibition of garments in Qatar

October 28, 2022



Not only is it Valentino's largest exhibition to date, but it also the first to be shown in the Middle East. Image credit: Valentino

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

A new exhibition of Maison Valentino garments celebrating the fashion house's long history and haute couture craftsmanship opened Oct. 28 in Doha, Qatar, marking the largest such initiative for the brand.

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Forever Valentino pays homage to the house's founder, Valentino Garavani, and the heritage of the brand, both past and present.

Craft of couture

On view at the design and innovation hub M7 in downtown Doha, the exhibition features more than 200 garments that span Valentino's entire history and include both haute couture and ready-to-wear pieces.

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The exhibition is part of Qatar's cultural movement Qatar Creates.

Garments include outfits designed for Elizabeth Taylor, Jacqueline Kennedy and Zendaya, among other icons, and pieces from the personal collection of a current loyal client of the house, Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, consort of the former Emir of Qatar and cofounder of the Qatar Foundation.



Qatar is vying to become the preeminent cultural hub in the Middle East, with its museums and focus on acquisition of art. Image credit: Valentino

The exhibition explores the history of the brand, which Mr. Valentino founded in 1959 in Rome, the house's haute couture codes, and the inspirations for both him and his successor, creative director Pierpaolo Piccioli.

The backdrop for the clothing, accessories and other ephemera is a simulated Rome, which is a major source of inspiration throughout Valentino's history. Visitors will walk through palazzos, squares and the brand's storied archives and fitting salons.

The exhibition coincides with the unveiling of Valentino's autumn/winter 2022 couture collection in Rome and Mr. Valentino's 90th birthday. The designer retired after his final couture and ready-to-wear shows in 2008.

Curated by Massimiliano Gioni, artistic director of the New Museum New York and Alexander Fury, working with Mr. Piccioli, the exhibition will be at M7 through April 1.

For those who cannot see it in person, the *Forever Valentino* app will take visitors through the exhibition virtually.

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