

APPAREL AND ACCESSORIES

New York's Museum at FIT to mark 50 years of hip hop style

November 9, 2022



Nike "Air Jordan" high top s neakers 1985, USA, The Museum at FIT, 85.196.1, gift of Nike Inc. Image credit: Museum at FIT

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

New York's Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology (MFIT) will present "Fresh, Fly and Fabulous: Fifty Years of Hip Hop Style" to celebrate a milestone for a style genre that has shaped fashion and entertainment.



Running Feb. 8 through April 23, this exhibition promises to be the largest and most comprehensive dedicated to the pioneering genre since its birth in the Bronx in 1973. Moreover, it will be the first time that the museum has analyzed fashion through a single musical genre.

"It was important for The Museum at FIT to organize this exhibition, because hip hop the most influential music genre of our era has had such a profound impact on the world of fashion," said Valerie Steele, director and chief curator of the Museum at FIT.

Fitting tribute

Co-curated by Elena Romero, journalist and assistant professor of marketing communications at FIT, and Elizabeth Way, associate curator of costume at the Museum at FIT, the display will feature more than 100 pieces that represent hip hop's most influential fashion moments.

The selection will include looks made popular by veteran acts such as Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five and Chuck D, as well as contemporary artists Lil Nas X and Cardi B.

Among the designers featured will be Baby Phat, Sean Jean, Tommy Hilfiger and Gucci.

Visitors will follow the journey of hip hop through its earliest incarnations in clubs, to its mass appeal across music, film and television, as well as fashion.

The exhibition will comment on the way that hip hop fashion was used not only to express individuality, but also Black pride and activism.

"Hip hop fashion and music are cultural expressions of the African and Hispanic cultural diasporas, which MFIT seeks to amplify as part of our goal to expand the understanding of fashion," Ms. Steele said.

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