

COMME des GARÇONS

White Drama

13 April – 7 October 2012

The Galliera Museum's extra-mural programme continues at Les Docks - Cité de la Mode et du Design with two concurrently running exhibitions: one on Cristóbal Balenciaga and the other on Rei Kawakubo.

Galliera invites you to a total experience of the latest Comme des Garçons fashion event, spring-summer 2012: no numbered seats, no catwalk, no carefully timed parades etc. This is no ordinary fashion show but installation art, designed by Rei Kawakubo herself, where you can admire the models up close at your leisure.

Always one to shun convention, **Rei Kawakubo has metamorphosed the classic fashion show** and rewritten the codes of high fashion. In *White Drama* with its quasi-monochrome models, **she dramatizes life's big events**: birth, marriage, death and transcendence.

White Drama is whiteness – pure, ceremonial white of every hue. Budding flowers, layered handkerchiefs, white-flecked material, lace insets inspired by christening robes, an obi-bow belt, overcoats and tall hats redolent of the Holy Week processions in Seville, a wedding gown like the silky cocoon of an insect and fabrics, both untreated and refined, shiny and mat, opaque and sheer, which take on a vibrant life of their own, drawing on the natural vitality of the animal, mineral and vegetable worlds.

White Drama is indeed a feat; it is masterful fashion architecture from which there emanates an intangible almost **spiritual dimension to transport you to the unique world of Rei Kawakubo.**

Curator:
Olivier Saillard, Director of the Galliera Museum.

Scenography:
Rei Kawakubo, Founder and designer of Comme des Garçons.



Rei Kawakubo, *Comme des Garçons*, spring-summer 2012.
Satin over crinoline dress
© Comme des Garçons / Jean-François José

Practical information

Les Docks - Cité de la Mode et du Design :

34 quai d'Austerlitz
75013 Paris
Tel. : 01 76 77 25 30

Open Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 6pm except public holidays.

Group entrance ticket for both exhibitions:

Full price: €6
Reduced price: €4.5
Youth price (14-26): €3
Free for under 14s

Access :

Metro : Gare d'Austerlitz, Quai de la Gare, Gare de Lyon
Bus : 24, 57, 61, 63, 89, 91

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