

## Texas Fashion Collection – Information Sheet

The Texas Fashion Collection (TFC) presents the history of fashion through research, exhibition, and stewardship of nearly 20,000 garments and dress-related objects. Holdings include pieces from the nineteenth through twenty-first centuries, with renown examples of *haute couture* by Cristobal Balenciaga and Hubert Givenchy, designs by Oscar de la Renta and Norman Norell, and ready-to-wear by notable American and international designers such as Vera Wang, Jean Paul Gaultier, and Karl Lagerfeld.

As part of the College of Visual Arts and Design at the University of North Texas, the TFC connects with diverse audiences through educational experiences.

### UNT students and faculty

- Enriches university learning through tours and classroom support
- Provide academic and design inspiration through curatorial research appointments with the collection and its supporting archives and reference materials
- Offer professional development opportunities with volunteer projects and internships, where students learn about object research, handling, and preservation

### Dallas-Fort Worth area professionals and general public

- Creates ties between UNT and fashion design and museum communities in the region
- Draws from a long history with the Dallas Fashion Group (now Fashion Group International) and Neiman-Marcus, which built the foundations of the collection and continue to donate examples of contemporary fashion
- Presents and preserves the history of Dallas-based designers and institutions
- Curates and organizes exhibitions at a variety of venues, including NorthPark Center, The Meadows Museum at Southern Methodist University, the Kimbell Art Museum, and the Crow Collection of Asian Art, among others.

### National and international museum-goers and fashion professionals

- Maintains relationships with museum professionals, designers, and fashion professionals through publications, conferences, and professional development activities
- Expands the impact and recognition of the collection through loans to well respected museums like the Queen Sofia Spanish Institute, the George W. Bush Presidential Library, the de Young Museum in San Francisco, the Museum at FIT, and the Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Both locally and internationally, there is an increased interest in and appetite for fashion exhibitions, publications, and events. This has led to record attendance at many museums.

- Nearly 115,000 people attended the exhibition “The Fashion World of Jean Paul Gaultier” when it travelled to the Dallas Museum of Art in 2011. In 2017, the DMA will host the internationally renowned exhibition “Iris van Herpen: Transforming Fashion.”
- At the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the list ten most-visited exhibitions includes three organized by the Costume Institute: “Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty” (2011, with 661,509 visitors), “China: Through the Looking Glass” (2015, with 815,000 visitors), and “Manus x Machina” (2016, with 752,995 visitors).