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Mid-Term Essay

The House of Dior is one of the world's most prestigious and luxurious couture fashion brand with various competitors such as Prada, Chanel, Burberry, and Gucci being at the top of the fashion market triangle valuing nearly \$47 billion having multiple stores across the country. Christian Dior became the most influential designer between the late 40s and 50s with his silhouettes along with his "new look" being superior in the fashion world after WW2. Dior began his career in fashion by selling his sketches before landing a job as an illustrator for a magazine. Becoming an designer Christian's designs were copied by other seamstresses as well as dressmakers constructing the methods/techniques for Haute Couture.

Christian Dior helped reshape the way woman are perceived as well as dressed and the fashion industry, before Dior's new look woman would wear the same attire due to the depression which included slacks, warm colors, washable dresses, clothing with squared shoulders, narrow hips and skirts ending below the knee woman weren't allowed to exude their femineity. With the help of the new look woman were able to show off a new silhouette, this look created controversy because its exaggeration of femineity due to fabrics being used such as sheer. The Brooklyn Museum displayed the evolution of Dior's garments starting with a brief biography of Christian

Dior (Photo 1) throughout the exhibit it was expressed how woman's wear evolved to what is shown today. Each room in the exhibit displayed a different collection from Dior including description of the garments discussing some materials used such as the fabrics. Besides the biography of Christian Dior, the exhibit begins with the Victorian era allowing viewers to understand the period Dior began to shape woman's wear (Photo 2). In the photo Dior used bold floral prints to bring out the femineity and adding jewels to showcase elegance. The next room displayed the "new look" dress (Photo 3) in a case with a brief description about the importance of the dress along with the controversy tied to the dress allowing visitors to understand the affect the dress had reshaping the fashion industry. The exhibit was a wonderful way to honor Christian Dior showcase the impact he has in the fashion industry my attention was grasped immediately while entering the presentation (Photo 3). The curatorial team's placement choice was a great way to capture the attention of viewers from starting to end helping display the evolution of Dior. My favorite rooms in the exhibit were a pure white room with cases of garments all around filled with blazer jackers to pleated skirts from the floor to the ceiling excluding the classiness Dior brings to Haute Couture, another room showcase the range of colors Dior used one his garments scaling from purple to white his was very interesting to look at. The curatorial team did an amazing job displaying garments designed by other designers who had the opportunity to take over the fashion brand after Christian's untimely death such as Raf Simmons, Hedi Slimane and Maria Grazia Chiuri being the first woman creative director for the House of Dior (Photo 4). This Exhibit hosted at the Brooklyn Museum has opened my eyes to see the artistic creative expression Christian was able to produce after receiving the backlash from his post World War 2 look.





Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3.

Photo 4

