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Extra credit paper

Paris, capital of Fashion, at FIT Museum, as well as New York City, Paris it is also considered as a capital of Fashion, we know that most of the most famous high-end fashion designers of all times were born in France, and that hit a historical importance to the Fashion history. Throughout the whole exhibition a lot of silk, wool and rayon were implemented in the garments. Silk was one of the most used one, because of its lustrous finished and the elegance that the fiber gives to the garment, also silk it is one of the strongest protein fibers which its durability it is a most.

Robert Piguet a swiss-born but Paris-based fashion designer, made a red-orange silk shantung dress, in 1944, the designer used silk shantung, which is a type of silk, made from wild silk. This fabric gives the dress the effect as a “flame”, if you see the dress you could see as a fire is lighting up in the ribbon on top of the dress, the part I do not like is the bottom part, the skirt part of the dress does not match the visualization that I perceived when I see the top part. It should be same shape and, in my opinion, if it is more domed in the skirt part would give a more harmonious look to the garment.

The second dress, the red silk satin dress, made in 1952 by Jacques Fath, a French designer, for Joseph Halpert. The designer used satin silk for the garment, the most common type of silk. Satin weave gives it the lustrous and the smooth surface. The garment, when you first see it you could feel by only eyes that if you touch it, you will feel smooth and soft. The dress it is a very elegant

piece, having buttons in the top with a unique ribbon tie, closing it around the top neck, and also the black leather belt, giving the dress an elegant, artistic and aesthetic look. Women back to the 40s to the 60s would love to dress as that, and those types of dresses would represent the aristocracy, and the intense red color attracts people's attention instantly. I personally get fascinated by the lustrous surface when I see the dress, I could see elegance and instantly transported me back to the 50s in a party where you can dance easily with that dress.

However, not only those two garments brought my attention, I really loved Jacques Fath's satin silk dress but, Piguet's one also brought my attention because I felt that could be done much better and also because they both look similar in terms of color and fabrics. In addition, other garments that brought my attention, for example the suit by Gabrielle Chanel, from 1966, which is a classic piece from her and a classic piece in the Fashion movement, or like *Madame Gres* by Hamish Bowles, the ivory silk dress with an ancient Greek look, gives it a nice and simple look, perfect for a night dress. Overall, all the dresses, garments, accessories in the exhibition designed by French fashion designers or designed in France represents the importance of what a garment express about, those times haute couture and fashion were only for rich people, you could see that through the elegance that every garment represents. They were (wealthy people) the only ones who could only afford to dress nicely, and it is beautiful how from those times to the present, what fashion really means has changed.



Jacques Fath for Joseph Halpert, cocktail dress, 1952, USA. The Museum at FIT



ROBERT PIGUET (LEFT)  
Red-orange silk shantung dress, circa 1944, France, The Museum at FIT



Me at the FIT Museum ☺