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LE THÉÂTRE DIOR
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EXPLORE THE LAST SEVEN DECADES OF DIOR HAUTE COUTURE AS THE FAMED FASHION HOUSE SHOWCASES OVER 60 OF ITS ICONIC DRESSES IN DUBAI

In 1947 the French designer Christian Dior turned the fashion world upside down when he launched a debut haute couture collection dubbed the New Look. His clothes were all about creating feminine silhouettes, the pinnacle of which being the Bar Suit. Easily his most iconic piece it featured a large corolla skirt that kicked out over the hips with a white blazer that synched in at the waist.

It might seem unusual to describe a single outfit as having great historical significance, but strict rationing, the war

effort and the general make-do-and-mend attitude of wartime Europe meant women had been sporting simple, boxy and more militaristic outfits. This helped the line become a roaring success and soon his New Look was being imitated the world over. You can discover just why at Le Theatre Dior, a travelling exhibition of Dior's most famous haute couture dresses in small-scale form at The Dubai Mall's Fashion Catwalk Atrium this month.

Each outfit – and there are more than 60 of them – is perfectly identical to the

original, and was painstakingly recreated using the same techniques and fabrics. For example, every last inch of the 1949 Miss Dior dress, (allegedly named after Christian's sister Catherine), is covered in beautiful individually handcrafted flowers.

The show features outfits from the last seven decades of Dior, including the stunning gold dress worn by actress Charlize Theron in the 2011 J'adore advert. So go along, pick your favourite and convince yourself it's a history lesson.

dior.com

WORDS: LOUISE QUICK IMAGE: BAKAS ALGIRDAS FOR DIOR



If you're into fashion, check out Lifestyle TV on ice Digital Widescreen, home to fashion channels including Fashion One, E! and Video Fashion. Plus, the hit movie *The Devil Wears Prada* is showing in Film Club and In Louboutin's Shoes is on channel 1274 in Documentaries.