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# Inspiration and Context

## A Day in Paris with Marjorie Post



HILLWOOD  
ESTATE MUSEUM & GARDENS

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July 8, 2020



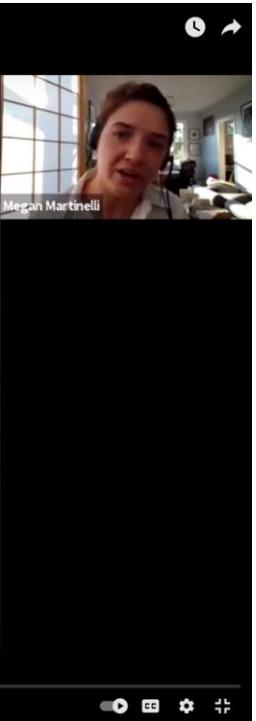
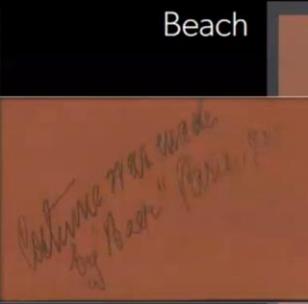
Lecture | A Day in Paris with Marjorie Merriweather Post



Purchased a Gustave Beer gown in 1904, had it reworked as a Marie Antoinette Fancy Dress costume for a 1926 Everglades Ball in Palm Beach



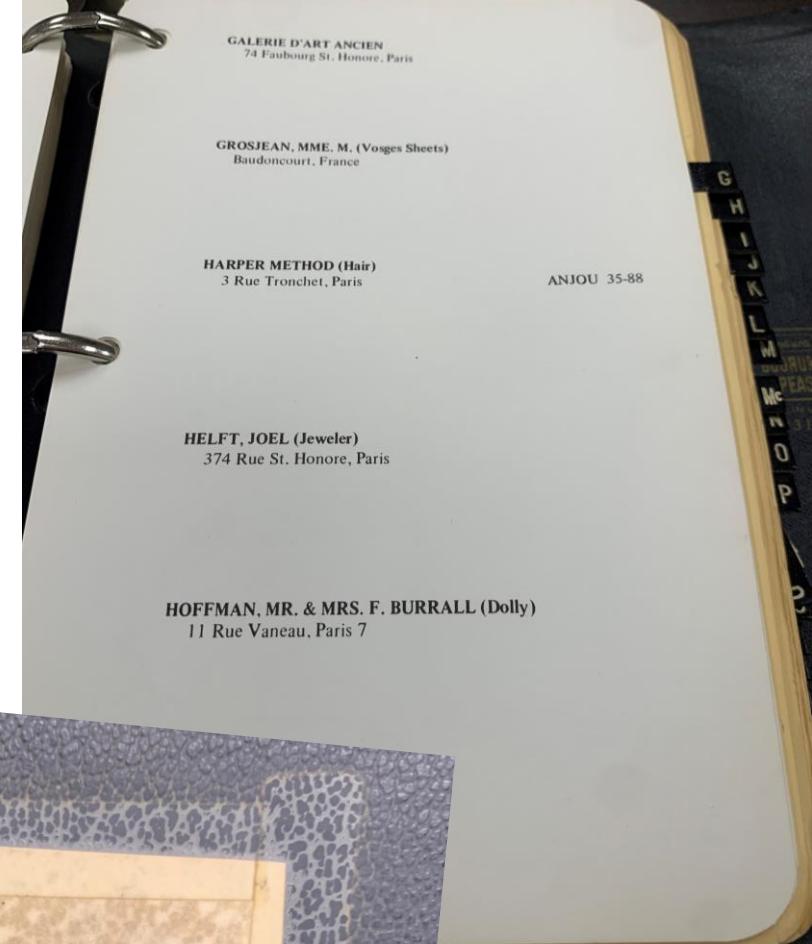
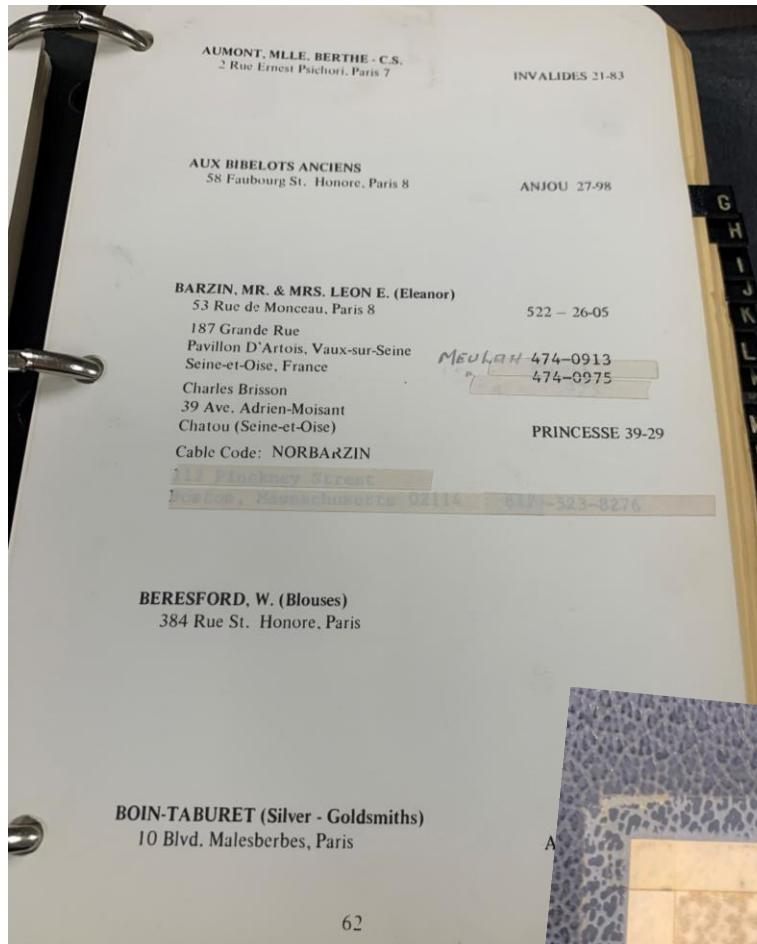
"Marie Antoinette" fancy dress costume  
Gustave Beer (German-born, active 1890-1910)  
Paris, 1904  
Modified, New York, 1924-1926  
Silk taffeta, charmeuse, tulle, lace, ribbons  
48.136.1-3



# Inspiration and Context



*Those Paris hats!*



Marjorie Post's scrapbooks and her address books via the Post Family Papers, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan and Hillwood's Archives and Special Collections

# Inspiration and Context



La Ville lumière (Paris: Direction et Administration, 1909)



Les Createurs de la Mode  
(Paris: C. Eggimann, 1910)  
<https://archive.org/details/lescreateursdela00roge>

# Inspiration and Context



Book jacket for *A shopping guide to Paris*, by Thérèse and Louise Bonney. New York: R.M. McBride & Company, 1929. Smithsonian Libraries. DC708.B55 1929

Full text is available: <https://archive.org/details/shoppingtoguide007017mbp>

Image Gallery of 4,000 Thérèse Bonney Photographs:

<https://library.si.edu/image-gallery/collection/th%C3%A9r%C3%A8se-bonney-photographs>



Thérèse Bonney Photographs  
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# Dacha gallery overview



# Introduction



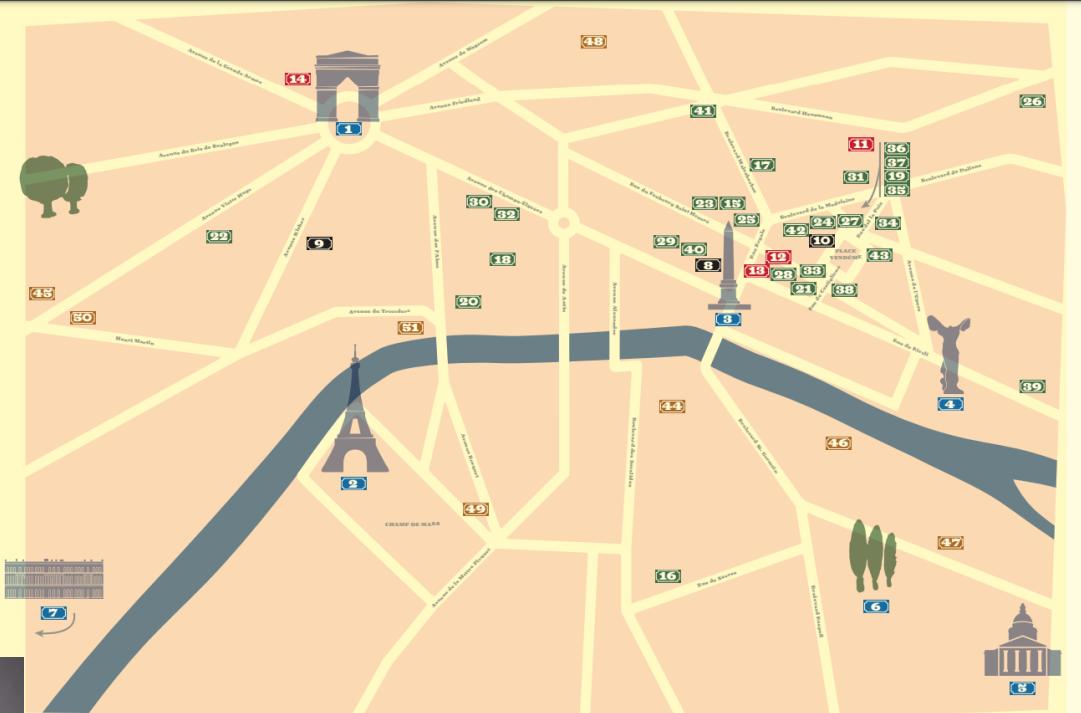
## POST'S PARIS

This map highlights destinations prominent in Marjorie Post's visits to Paris, including antique and specialty shops, jewelers, and the *hôtel particuliers* or grand town homes of her friends.

Post maintained an international address book with a Parisian section full of family and friends, including middle daughter Eleanor Post Close (1909–2006) ; ambassadors, dukes and duchesses, even princesses. Traditionally, Post favored a specific suite at the Ritz , one overlooking the Place Vendôme with a large sitting room. Earlier trips found her ensconced at the historic Hôtel de Crillon , a former state palace commissioned by Louis XV, or at the Art Deco-infused five-star Hotel Raphael , which opened in 1925.



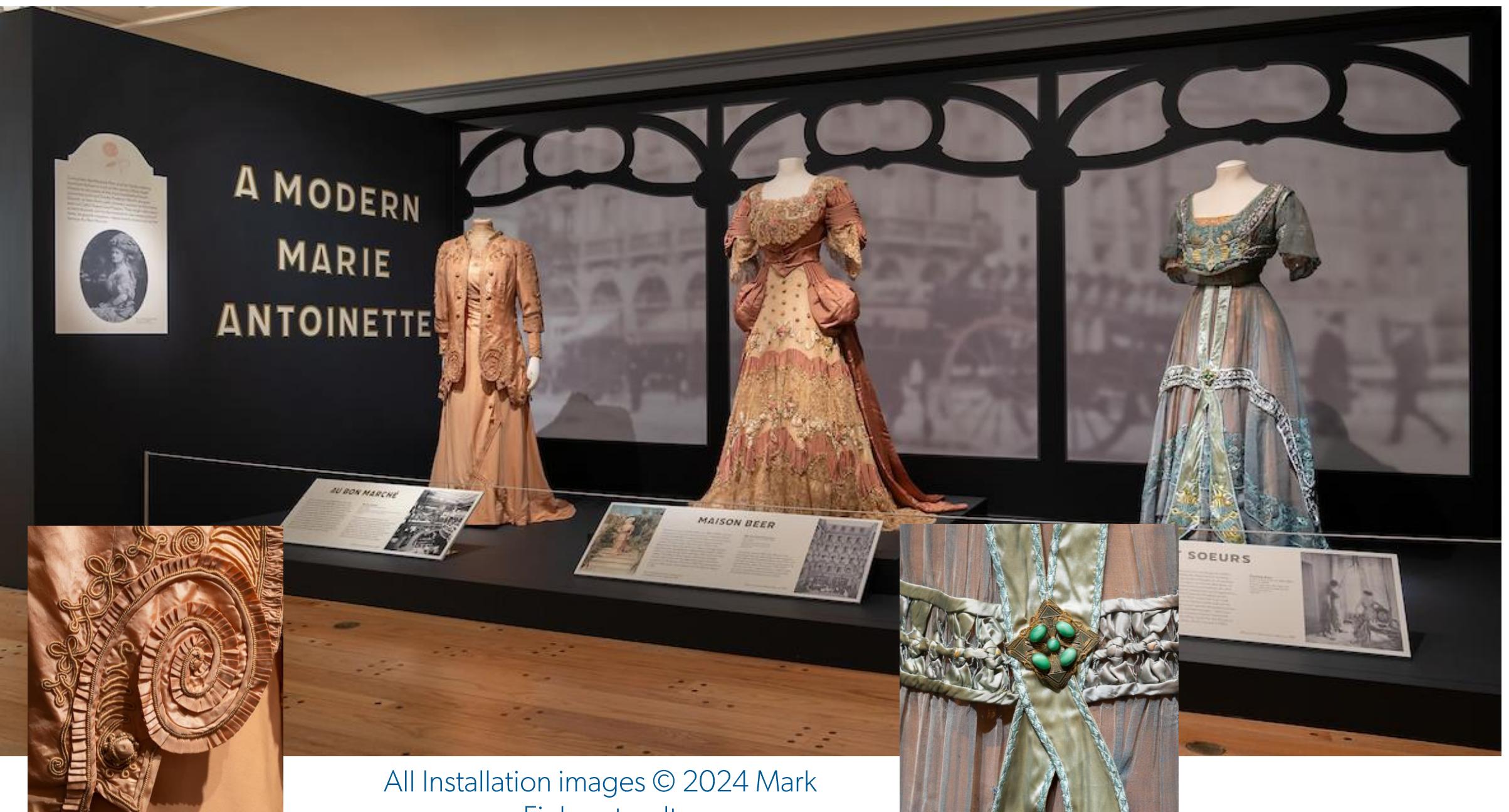
Secrétaire à chaussure shoe trunk  
Louis Vuitton (French, 1854–present)  
Asnières-sur-Seine, 1924  
Leather, brass, fabric, metal, wood  
(2014.16.3)



# Dacha gallery overview



# A Modern Marie Antoinette



# A Modern Marie Antoinette



## Daytime ensemble

Au Bon Marché (French, 1838–present)  
Paris, ca. 1900

Wool-silk challis, silk cord, cotton crochet,  
silk and linen lace (dress)  
Silk taffeta, silk cord, metallic thread (jacket)  
(48.9.1-3)

## Evening dress

Callot Soeurs (French, 1895–1952)  
Paris, ca. 1908

Cotton organdy, silk crêpe and satin, embroidery,  
glass beads, metal ornaments  
(48.22)

# Dacha gallery overview



# A Shopping Guide to Paris



# A Shopping Guide to Paris



Wedding dress

Callot Soeurs (French, 1895–1952)

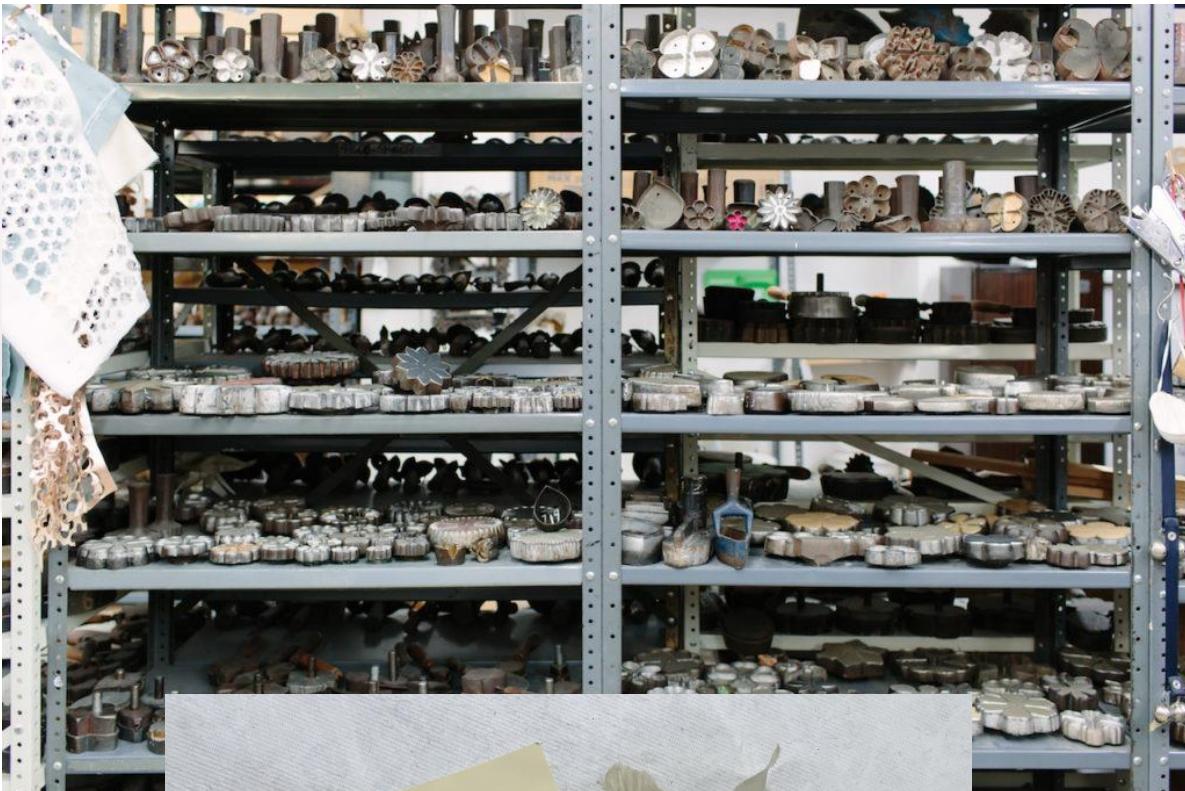
Louise Boulanger, designer (French, 1878–1950)

Paris, 1933

Silk satin, silk chiffon, reproduction silk velvet flowers  
(48.78)



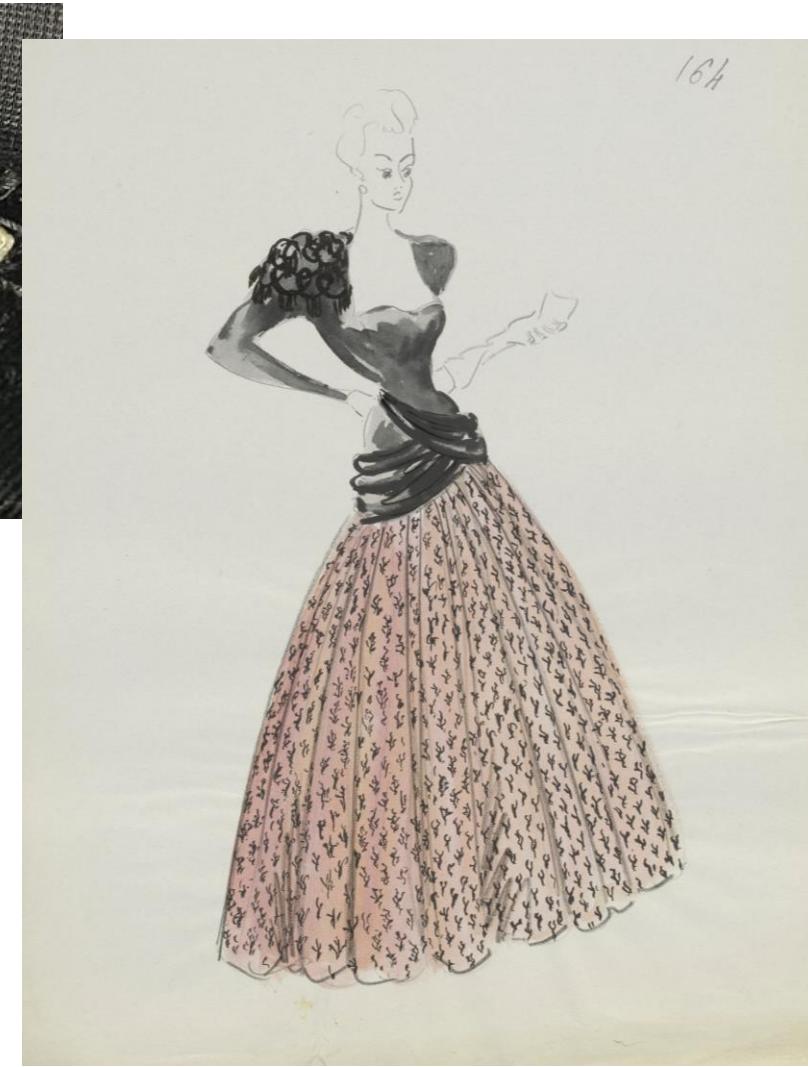
Factory images via M&S  
Schmalburg, New York



# A Shopping Guide to Paris



Design for the Winter 1946  
Maison Paquin evening dress  
from Colette Massignac  
© Victoria and Albert  
Museum, London



## Evening dress

Maison Paquin (French, 1891–1956) Colette Massignac, designer  
(French, active 1945–49)  
Paris, 1946  
Silk velvet, figured satin, beads, silk tulle  
(48.102)

# Dacha gallery overview



# Jewelry and Accessories



# Jewelry and Accessories



**Umbrella**

Denis Francet (French, active 1950s–90s)  
Paris, ca. 1955  
Nylon, brass, plastic  
(2014.11.7)

**Jabot collar**

Martial (French, 1893–1902)  
Paris, ca. 1900  
Linen needle lace, silk satin  
(2023.3)



**Blouse**

Pache (French, active 1940s–50s)  
Paris, ca. 1947  
Silk satin, cotton embroidery,  
mother-of pearl buttons  
(2023.2)



**Frame, with miniature of Marjorie Post**

Verger Frères, workshop  
(French, 1872–present)  
Paris, ca. 1930

Malcolm Rae, miniature painter  
(American, active 1920s–50s)  
New York, ca. 1940  
Agate, gold, enamel, nephrite,  
rubies, watercolor on ivory  
(21.119.1-2)



**Chevalier, Légion d'honneur (Legion of Honor)**

France, 1957  
Enamel, gold, silk moiré  
(18.78.1)

**Legion of Honor rosettes and ribbon bars**

Maison Boullanger (French, active 1866–?)  
Paris, late 1950s  
Printed paper, adhesive, tissue, silk, copper  
(2023.6.1-5, 2023.7.1-28, 2023.8.1-22)

# Jewelry and Accessories



*Demi-parure* of earrings and necklace

Probably French, 1800–1825

Rubies, diamonds, silver, gold  
(17.71.1-3)



*Necklace*

Cartier (French, 1847–present)

New York, 1950

Amethysts, turquoises, diamonds, gold, platinum  
(17.67.1)

# Jewelry and Accessories



Beauty patches

F. R. Arnold & Co. Importers (American, active 1866–1920s)  
New York, ca. 1904  
(2023.5.1-24)

Hat

Maison Caroline Reboux  
(French, active 1870–1956)  
Paris, 1895  
(2012.9.27)



Fan

Probably Paris,  
1900s  
(49.22)



Hat

Madame Georgette (French, active 1900–1940)  
Paris, 1910  
(2012.9.6)



# Dacha gallery overview



# Antiques and Treasures



Pair of sphinxes  
France, late 1800s–early 1900s  
Biscuit porcelain  
(24.168)

Portrait of Marie Antoinette and children  
After Élisabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun, painter (French, 1755–1842)  
Probably France, after 1787  
Oil on canvas  
(51.8)

Gold and turquoise box  
Carl Helfried Barbé (German, b. 1777)  
St. Petersburg, ca. 1810  
Gold, turquoise  
(11.104)

# Dacha gallery overview



Au revoir

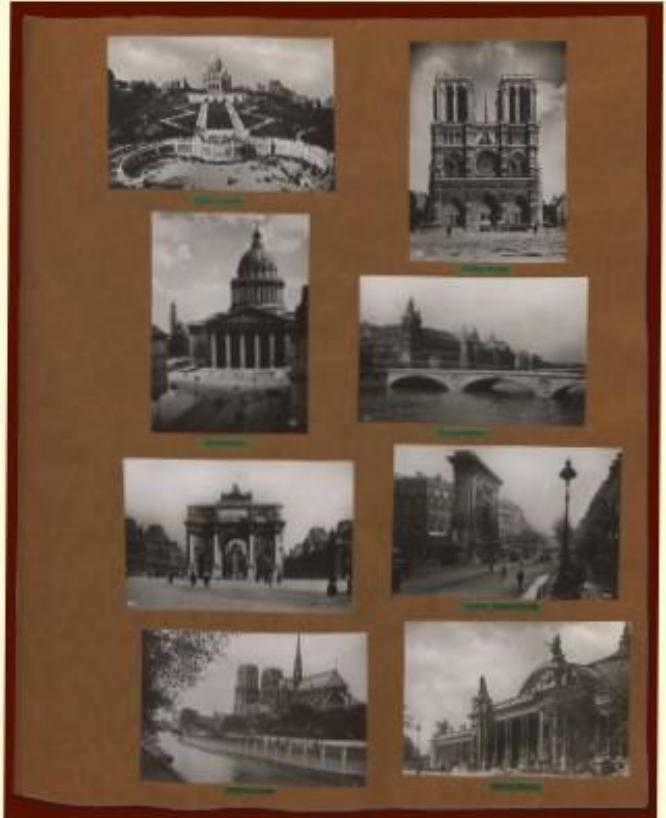


# Mansion rotation surprises!

## AU REVOIR!

Marjorie Post's passion for Paris leaves visitors to Hillwood today with more than a postcard or small souvenirs tucked into luggage; her collection is a celebration of centuries of French design.

*We hope that you will enjoy more displays connected to this exhibition throughout the mansion.*



**Evening dress**  
Paris, ca. 1920  
Silk velvet, tulle, faux pearls  
(48.43)



**Evening dress**  
Robert Piguet (Swiss, 1898–1953)  
Paris, ca. 1937  
Silk satin, tulle  
(48.76)