

A A



*Ajax*

AUTUMN-WINTER 1952

FR



*Chérie*

AUTUMN-WINTER 1950



A A



*Ajax*

AUTUMN-WINTER 1952

Photo Laziz Hamani



FR

*For daytime in town a dark suit in a smooth material is best...the 'little black suit' cannot be beaten for elegance and usefulness.*

— *LITTLE DICTIONARY OF FASHION*, CHRISTIAN DIOR, 1954

LINE	<i>Profilée</i>
OCCASION	Day suit
ATELIER TAILLEUR	François Jane
MANNEQUIN	
TEXTILE	Angora wool twill with dense, even nap

957.207.1.A-B

GIFT OF MRS. O.D. VAUGHAN ▪ ON LOAN FROM THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM, TORONTO





## Press Sketch

Press sketch of *Ajax*, named for a Greek mythological hero and warrior of the Trojan War, implying that the woman in this suit was ready to take on the day.

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS

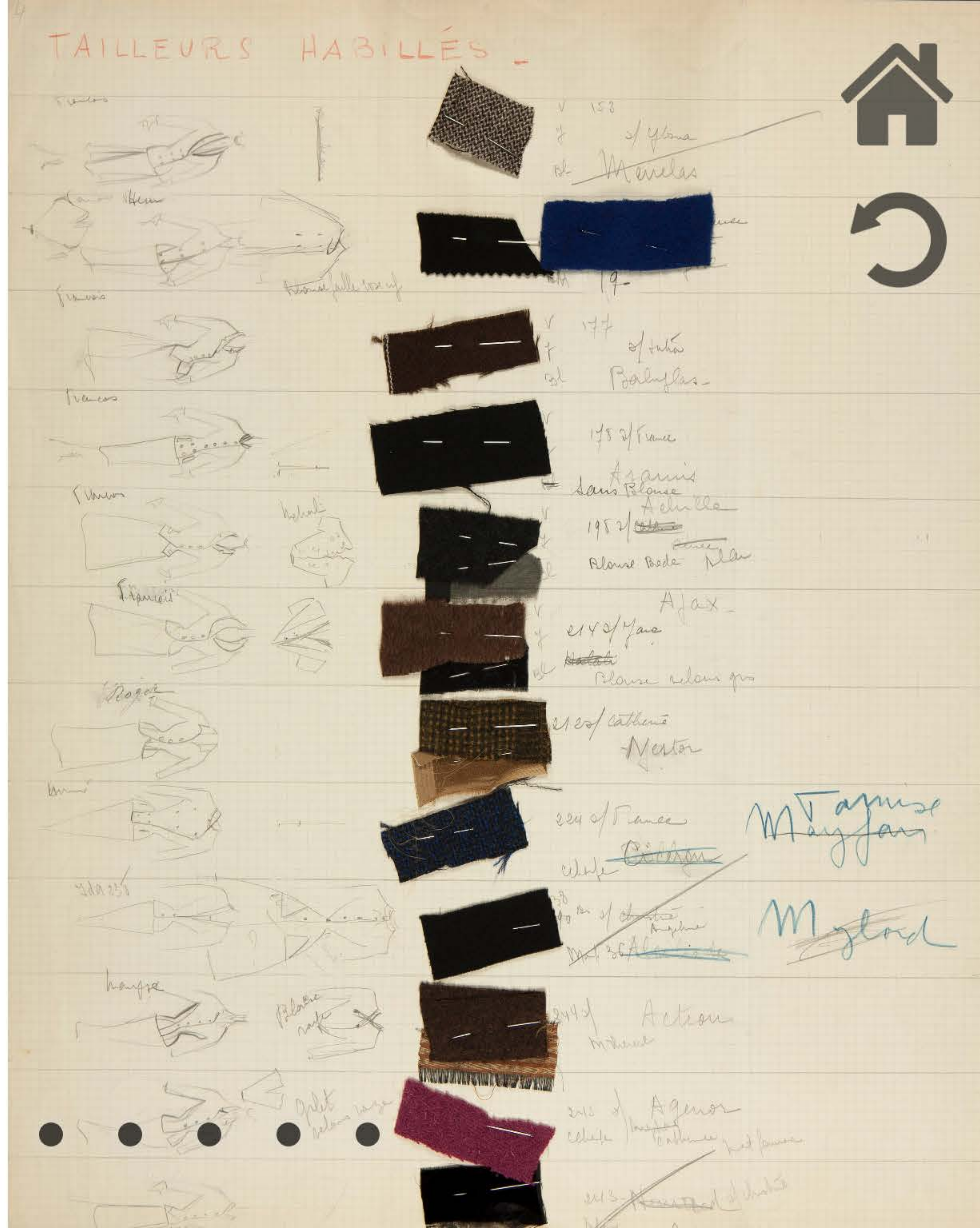
Christian Dior  
SOCIÉTÉ À RESPONSABILITÉ LIMITÉE - CAPITAL 35.000.000 DE FR\$  
30, AVENUE MONTAIGNE  
PARIS





## Chart

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS





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## *L'Art et la mode, 1952*

PHOTO GEORGES SAAD







*Above:* Pocket and dart on diagonal to emphasize waist and padded hip.

\* PHOTOS LAZIZ HAMANI



*Left:* Marcasite buttons (unknown maker)

*Below:* Tailor's canvas and cotton tulle for stiffening over the hip.





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Skirt back with kick pleat at narrow hem.





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- Skirt inside
- Tape seen on fold of pleat to keep it hanging straight
- Large seam allowances





A A



Chérie

AUTUMN-WINTER 1950

Photo Laziz Hamani



FR

*The weaving of France's fine textiles had been slowed down almost to a standstill. The phenomenal success and breadth of the Dior skirt set the weaving trade back into motion... Dior saved dressmaking in France.*

— JANET FLANNER, "HOMAGE TO DIOR," *HARPER'S BAZAAR*, DECEMBER 1957

LINE

*Oblique*

OCCASION

Two-piece day dress

ATELIER FLOU

Nicole

MANNEQUIN

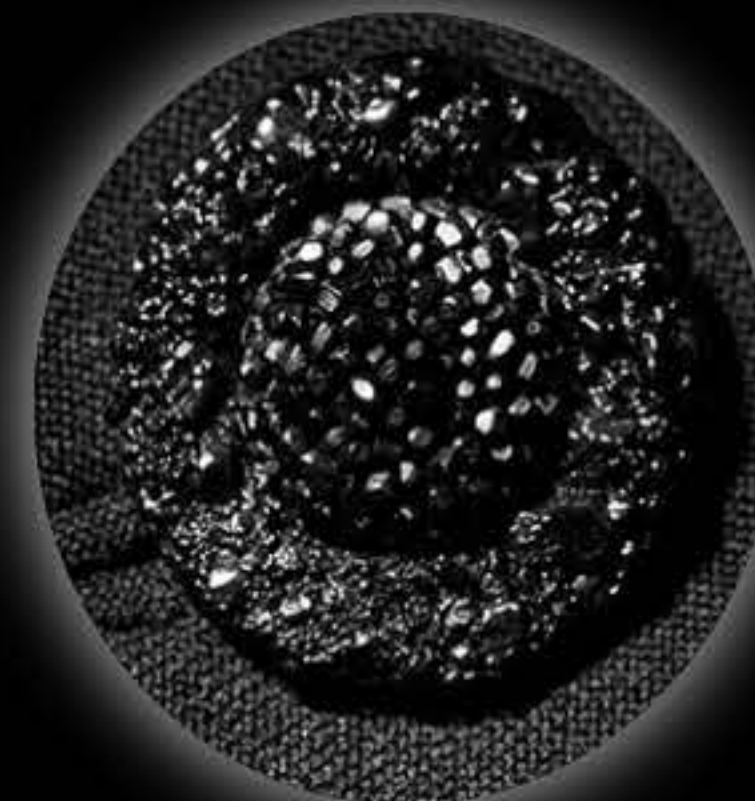
Hélène

TEXTILE

Wool tabby; plastic buttons by F.-V. Hugo; leather belt

956.161.1.A-C

GIFT OF MRS. DORA MATTHEWS ▪ ON LOAN FROM THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM, TORONTO





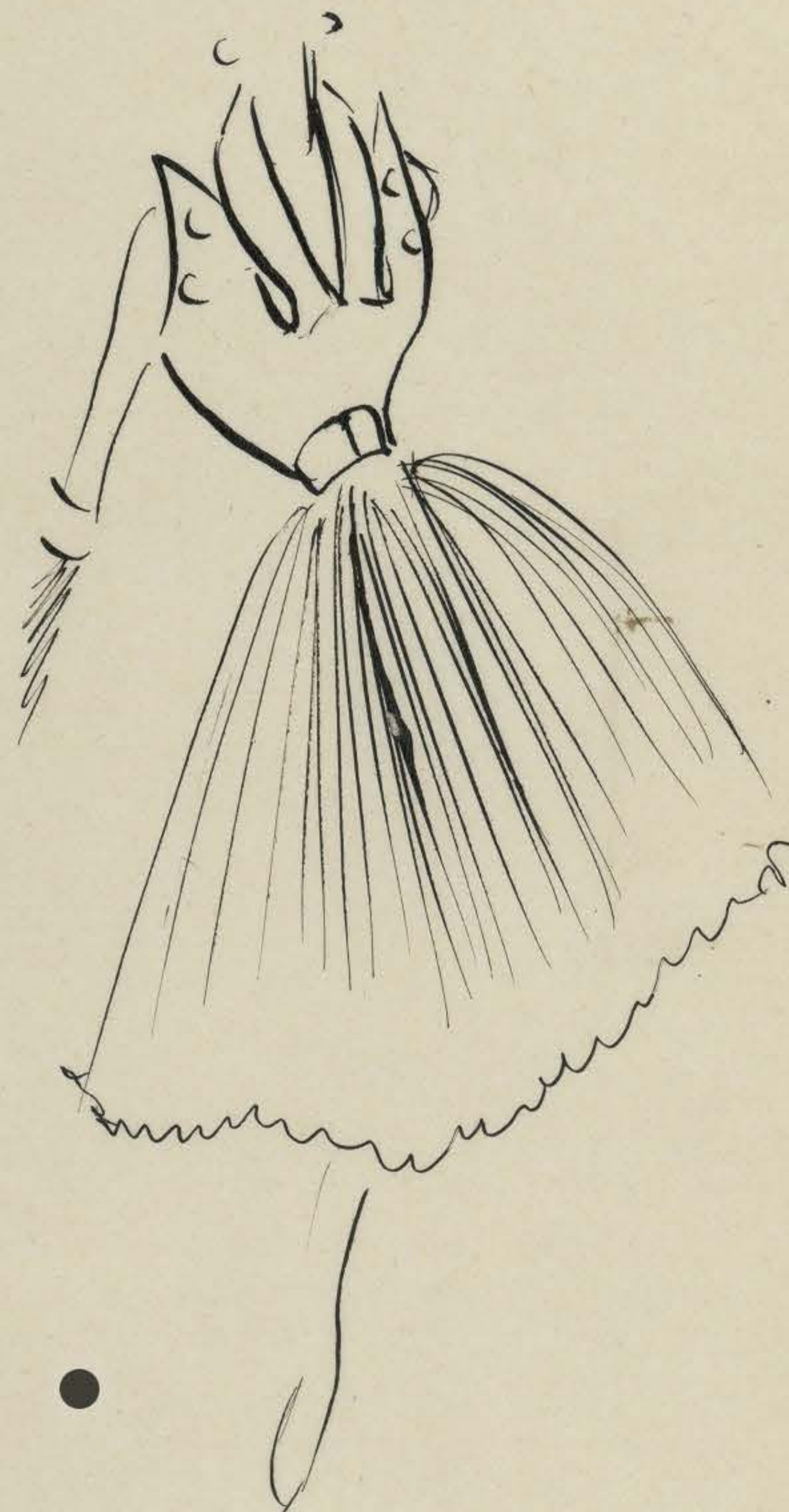
A A

# Press Sketch

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS

Christian Dior  
30. AVENUE MONTAIGNE - PARIS

NOM DU MODÈLE  
CHÉRIE





*Wm. L. G.*

11/27







Presented in Eaton's fall fashion show:  
*"Christian Dior's Chérie in black wool  
illustrates his full-skirted silhouette with  
tight basque."*

THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SEPTEMBER 12, 1950

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Buttons made by F.-V. Hugo, at 157  
Faubourg Saint-Honoré, Bijoux, Boutons,  
Paris, 1950. François-Victor Hugo was a  
descendant of famous French author Victor  
Hugo.





A A

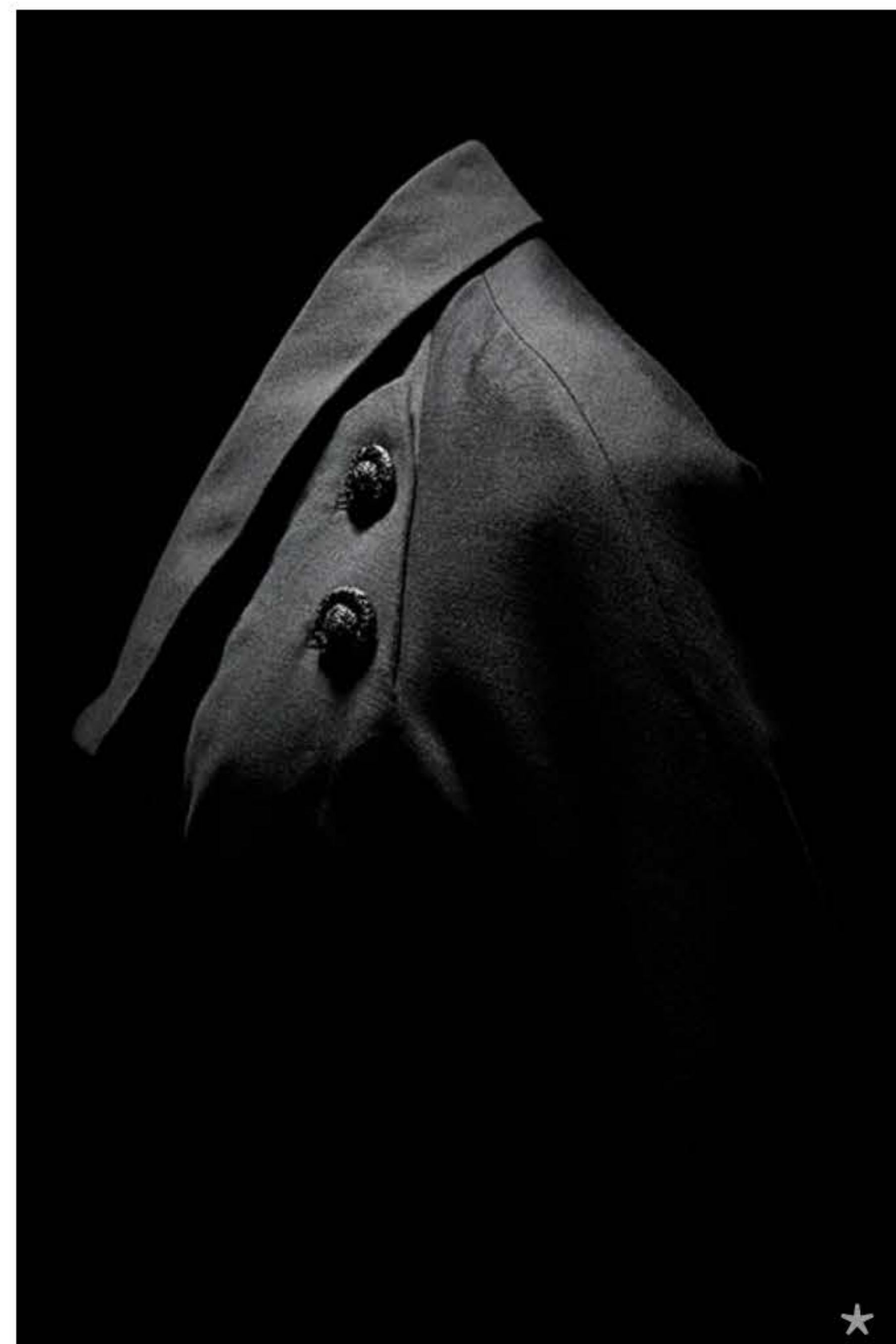


*Left:* Button made by F.-V. Hugo, whose atelier was at 157 Faubourg Saint-Honoré, Bijoux, Boutons, Paris.



*Right:* The wool bodice is finished with a silk panel that eliminates bulk when it is tucked under the skirt.

\* PHOTOS LAZIZ HAMANI





A A



*Left:* The fine cartridge (accordion) pleats – a typical 19<sup>th</sup> century dressmaking technique – allow a large width of fabric to be inserted into a small waistband with minimum bulk.



*Right:* A tulle petticoat is attached to the skirt for fullness.

\* PHOTOS LAZIZ HAMANI

