



Caracas Spring-Summer 1957

Avril Spring-Summer 1955



...buyers... selecting, discarding, adding to their list, cutting it down, asking for a different material.

Sometimes we have to take a firm stand, because not all of them show the best of taste.

- CHRISTIAN DIOR, 1951

LINE | Libre

OCCASION Late afternoon dress

ATELIER FLOU Unknown

MANNEQUIN Lucky

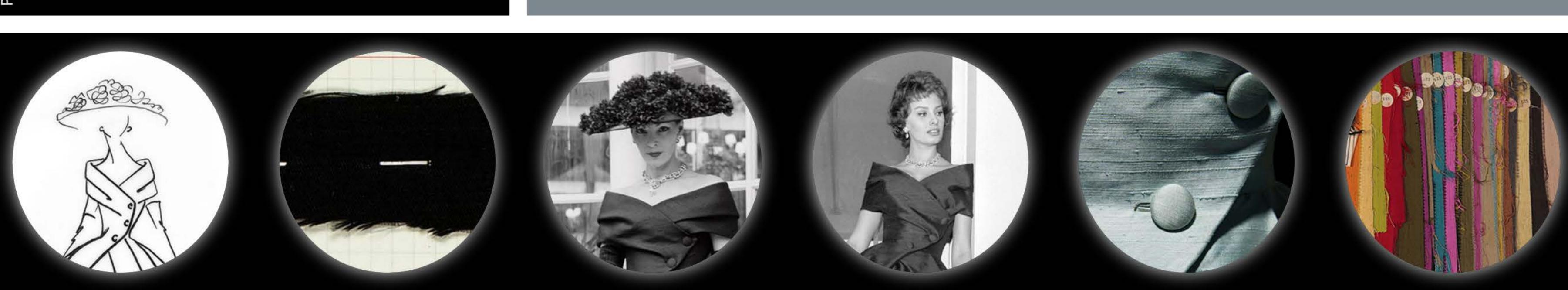
TEXTILE

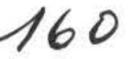
Aléoutienne silk (silk warp, dupion silk weft) by Staron

FR

2013.73.13

GIFT OF DAVID LEPOFSKY FROM THE JOAN LEPOFSKY COLLECTION • ON LOAN FROM THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM, TORONTO









Press Sketch

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS



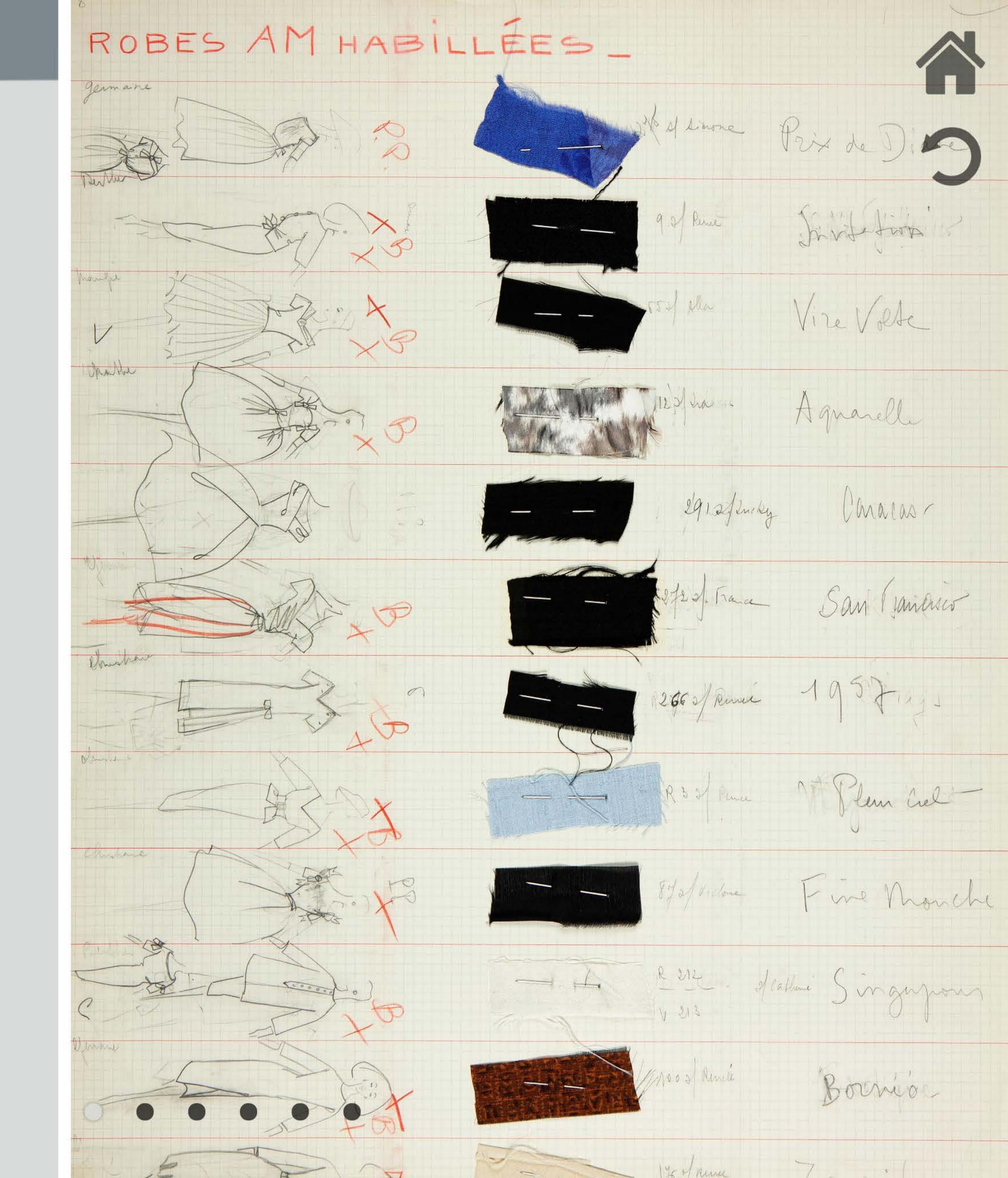


AA

Chart

Caracas was originally made in black as recorded on the chart. The textile, a silk Aléoutienne (silk warp, dupion silk weft) was woven by Staron in Saint-Étienne.

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS





Press photograph, Caracas worn by Lucky.

© ASSOCIATION WILLY MAYWALD / ADAGP, PARIS / SODRAC, MONTREAL (2017)

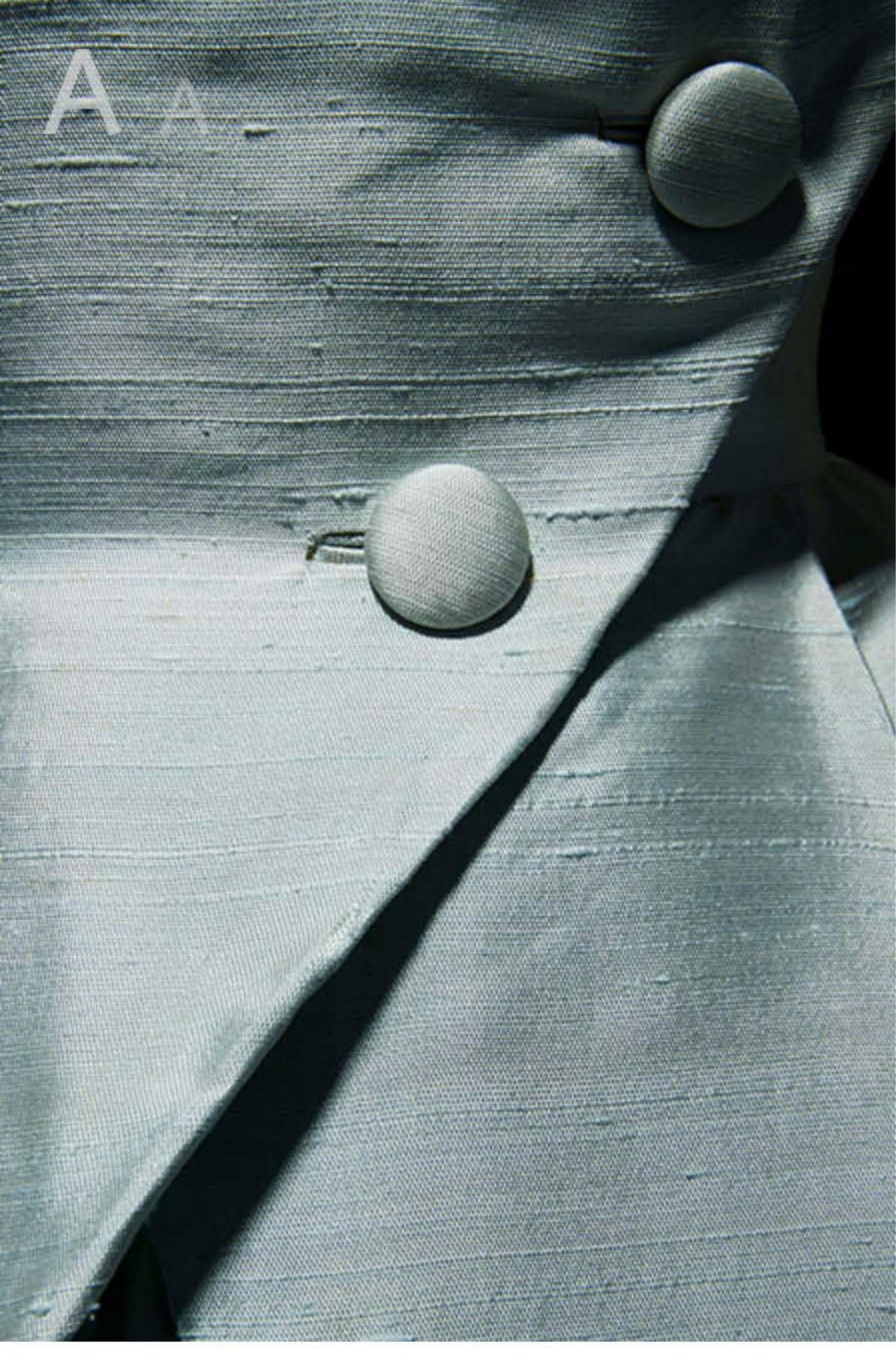


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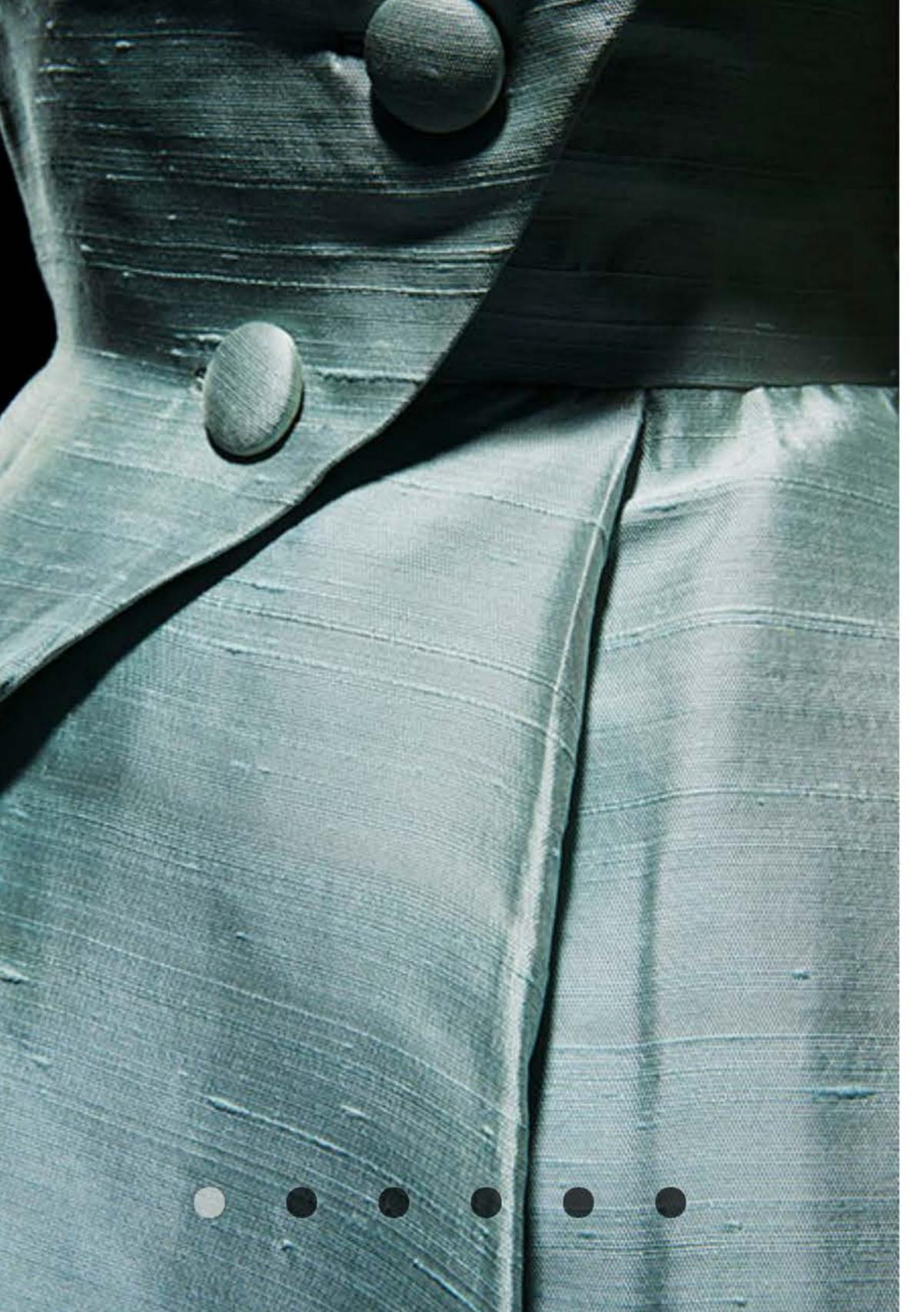
Italian movie star Sophia Loren, wearing Christian Dior's *Caracas* in silk Aléoutienne by Staron (Spring-Summer 1957)

GETTY IMAGES: CBS PHOTO ARCHIVE













PHOTOS LAZIZ HAMANI





Staron colourway samples for Aléoutienne pattern number #21.300 (silk warp and dupion weft).

- © COLLECTION MUSÉE D'ART ET D'INDUSTRIE DE SAINT-ÉTIENNE, FRANCE
- © CLICHÉS HUBERT GENOUILHAC 2017







Doing fine needlework and making beautiful dresses is not the same thing. The two must be linked up of course, but linking them up is not easy.

- CHRISTIAN DIOR, 1951

LINE

OCCASION

Two-piece garden party dress

ATELIER FLOU

Jane

MANNEQUIN

Lucky

TEXTILE

Silk organza, silk embroidery by Abraham

962.18.А-В

GIFT OF MRS. PHILIPPE HECHT . ON LOAN FROM THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM, TORONTO











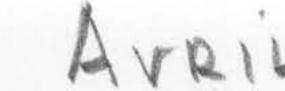
Press Sketch

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS



30, AVENUE MONTAIGNE

PARIS







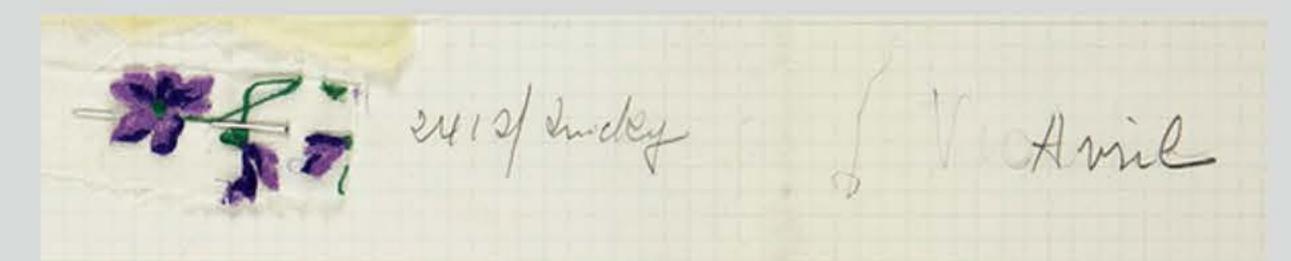




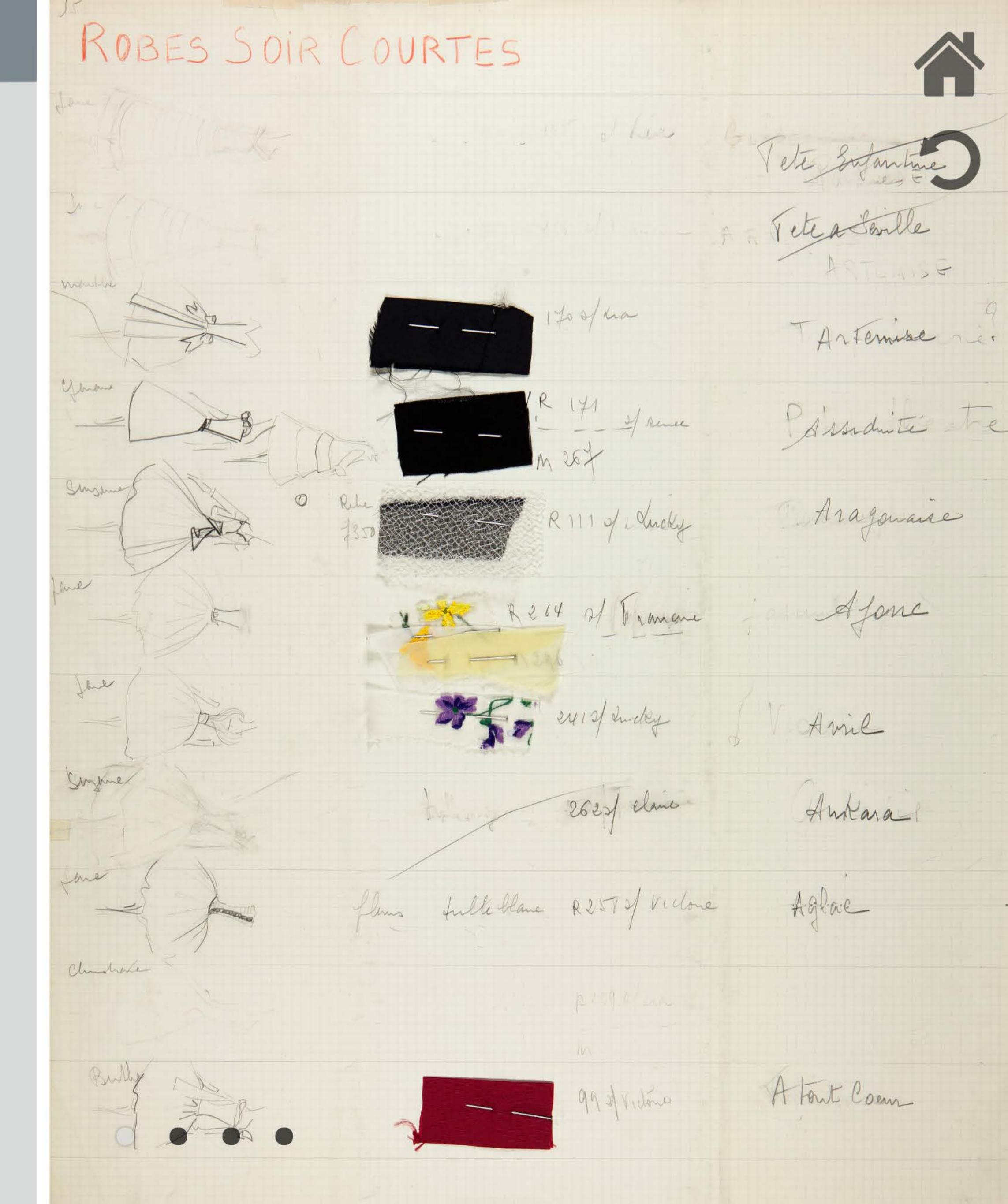
Chart

Each chart recorded the designs in a collection by type, who made it, for whom, and with textile swatches. This ensured the ateliers' work was evenly distributed and that the mannequins had time to change during daily presentations.

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS





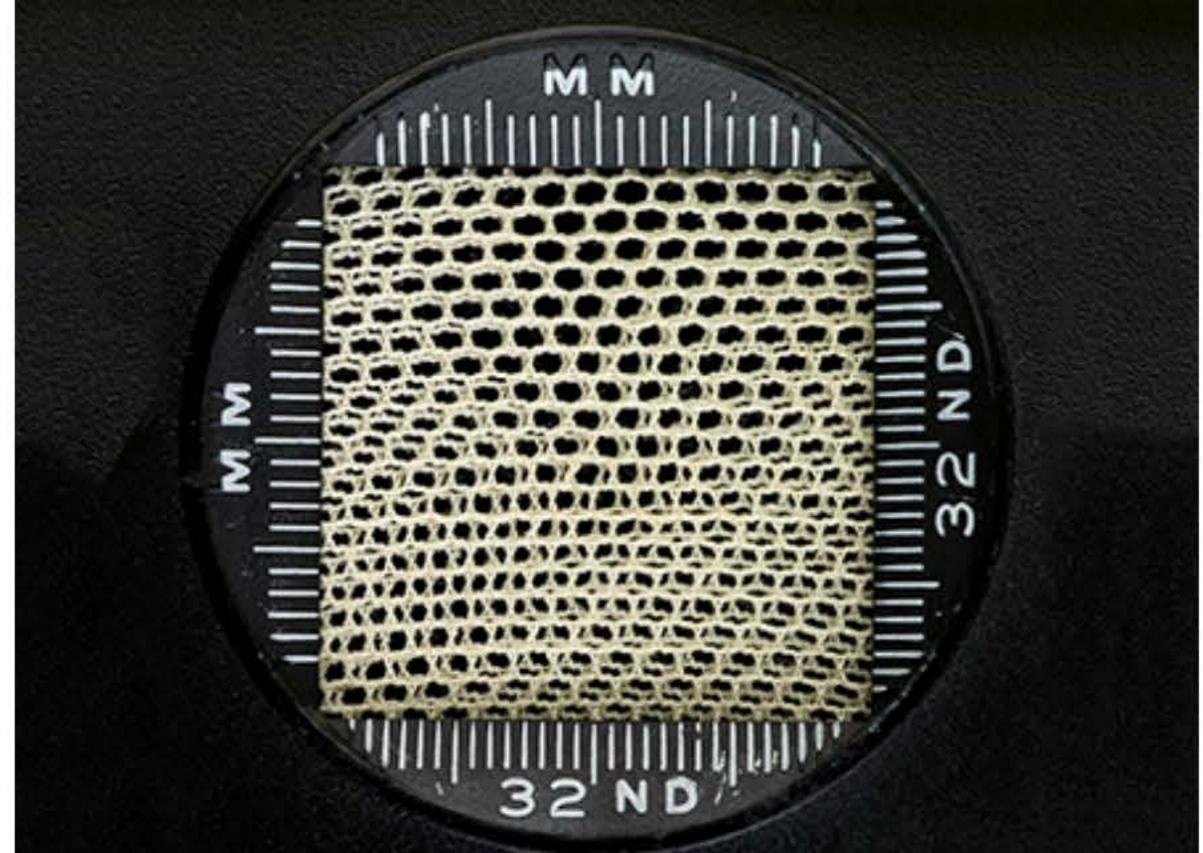


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© LES ÉDITIONS JALOU « L'OFFICIEL 1955 »







Left: Christian Dior bustiers/corsets were made from two layers of cotton tulle for strength.











Above: The violets embroidered on the silk organdy are carefully cut out and re-applied to balance the pattern.

^{*} PHOTOS LAZIZ HAMANI