



Centième

SPRING-SUMMER 1951



Nocturne

AUTUMN-WINTER 1948



Invitation

AUTUMN-WINTER 1956



Centième
SPRING-SUMMER 1951

A wise woman never discards an evening or dinner dress that's becoming to her, no matter how often she's worn it.

— *COMPLETE BOOK OF ETIQUETTE: A GUIDE TO GRACIOUS LIVING*, AMY VANDERBILT, 1954

LINE	<i>Naturelle</i>
OCCASION	Two-piece cocktail/dinner dress
ATELIER FLOU	Maggy
MANNEQUIN	Alla
TEXTILE	Silk satin; crystal bead embroidery by Vincent

991.147.4.1-2

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



Press Sketch

Press sketch of *Centième*, which means hundredth, perhaps referring to the beadwork.

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS

Publicité
Christian Dior
SOCIÉTÉ À RESPONSABILITÉ LIMITÉE CAP. 99.000.000 DE FR.
30. AVENUE MONTAIGNE
PARIS

CENTIÈME



The beaded design by Vincent is conceived as a complete work in the round.

© PHOTO LAZIZ HAMANI





The embroidery house, Vincent, used only 4 different clear, smooth, and faceted beads, and one size of crystal to make the sumptuous 18th-century style pattern.

PHOTOS LAZIZ HAMANI

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Nocturne
AUTUMN-WINTER 1948

Photo Laziz Hamani



FR

Velvet. No material is more flattering than velvet. It is most becoming to the complexion... It is always good to have velvet near the skin.

— LITTLE DICTIONARY OF FASHION, CHRISTIAN DIOR, 1954

LINE	<i>Ailée</i>
OCCASION	Two-piece dinner dress with cummerbund
ATELIER FLOU	Marthe
MANNEQUIN	Noëlle
TEXTILE	Silk velvet, iridescent beads

956.153.6.A-C

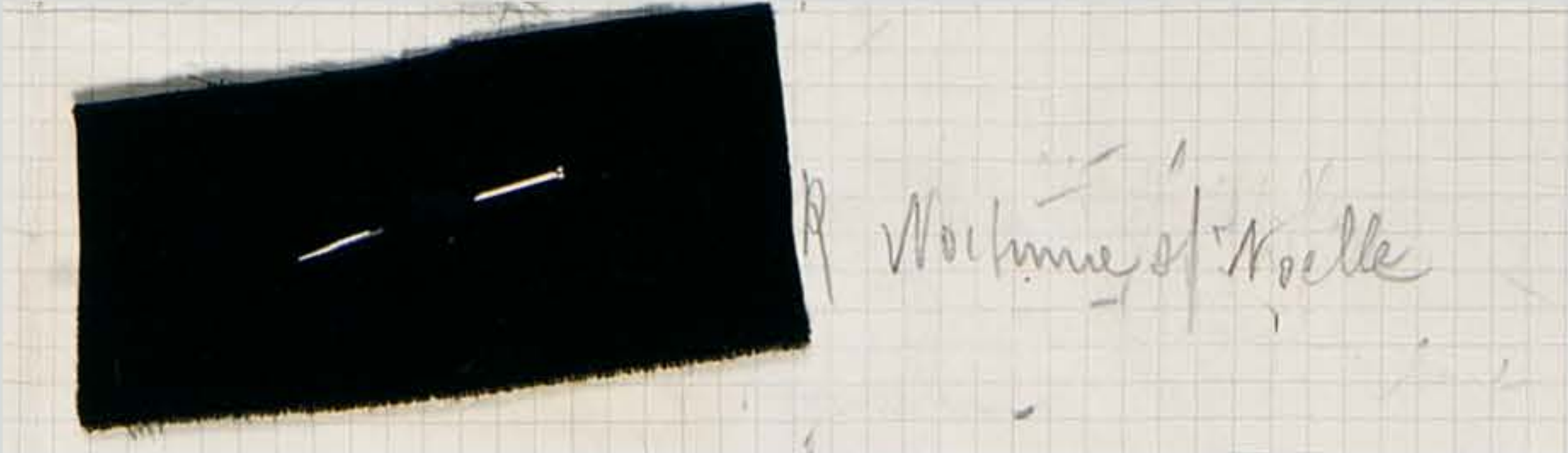
GIFT OF MRS. JOHN DAVID EATON ▪ ON LOAN FROM THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM, TORONTO



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



Press photograph, *Nocturne* worn by Noëlle.

Nocturne evokes the night and is used to describe music and painting compositions.

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



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Christian Dior photograph for registering
copyright of the design, *Nocturne*.

© CHRISTIAN DIOR



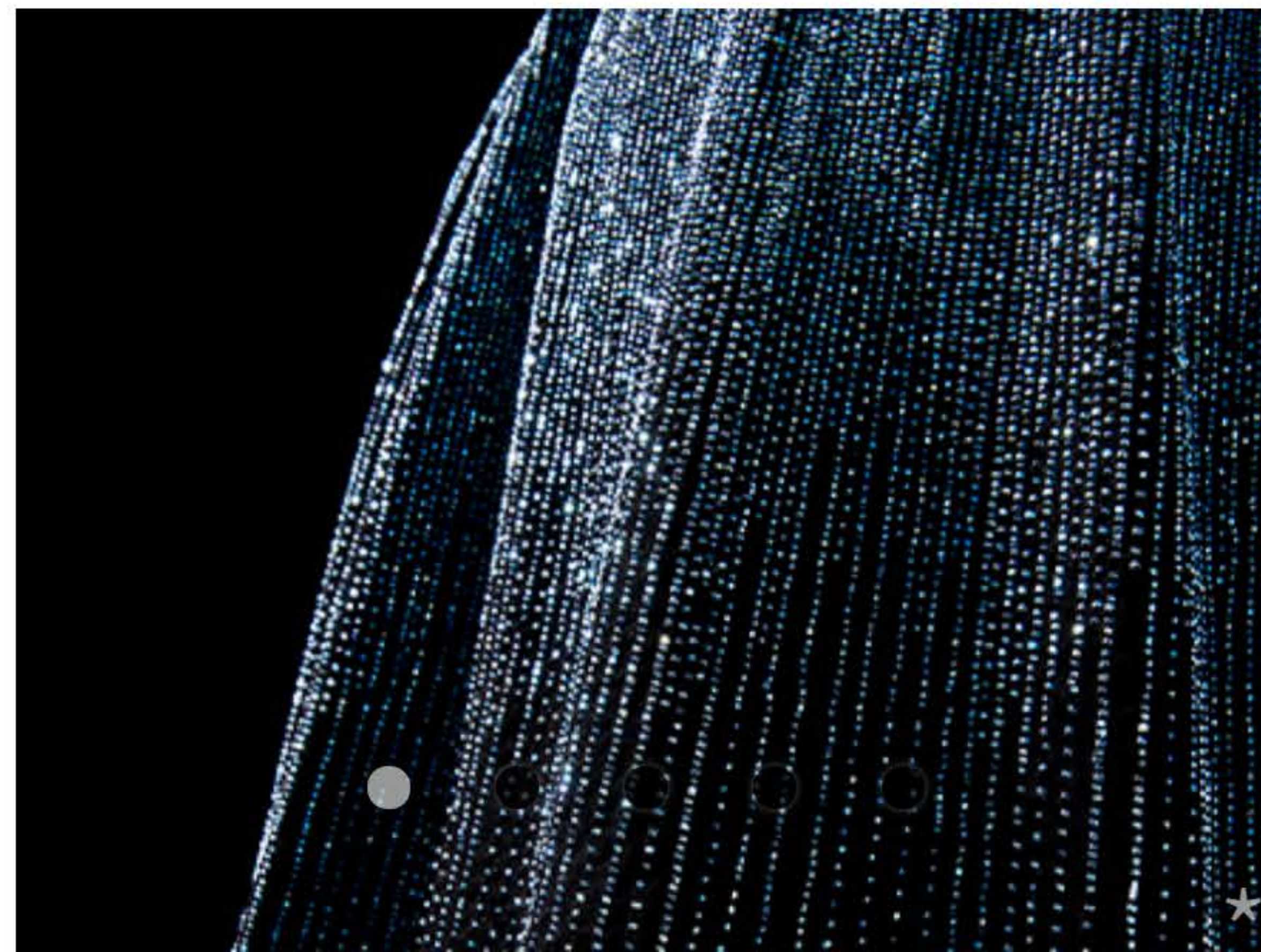
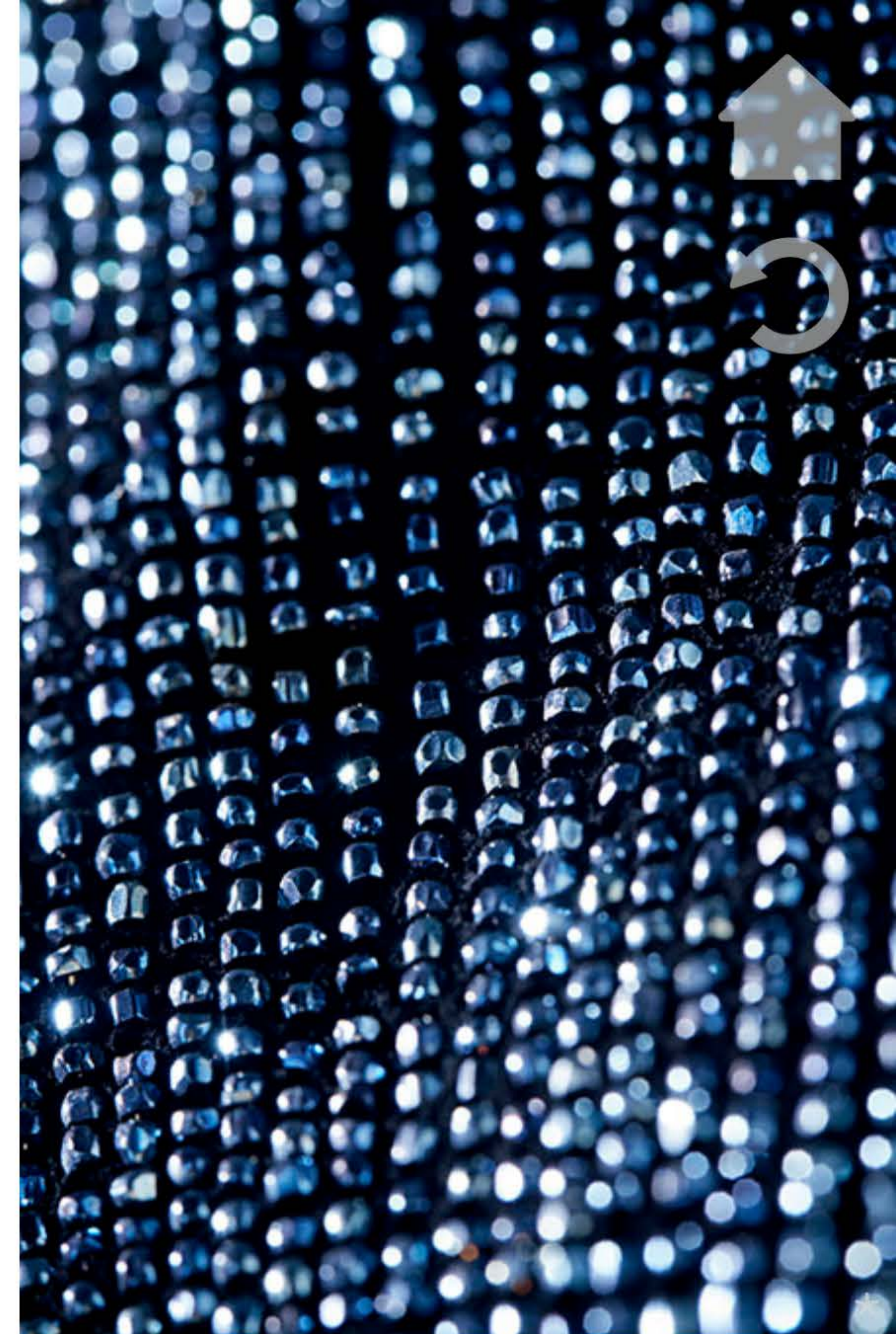
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Signy Eaton wore this ensemble as a hostess for dinners in her home, never as a guest. She wore the lapels down, not up as shown by Christian Dior.

- Bodice is beaded in radiating lines away from the midriff that is covered with a velvet cummerbund
- Smooth silk lies flat inside the skirt over the hips
- No records document the name of the embroidery house

* PHOTOS LAZIZ HAMANI



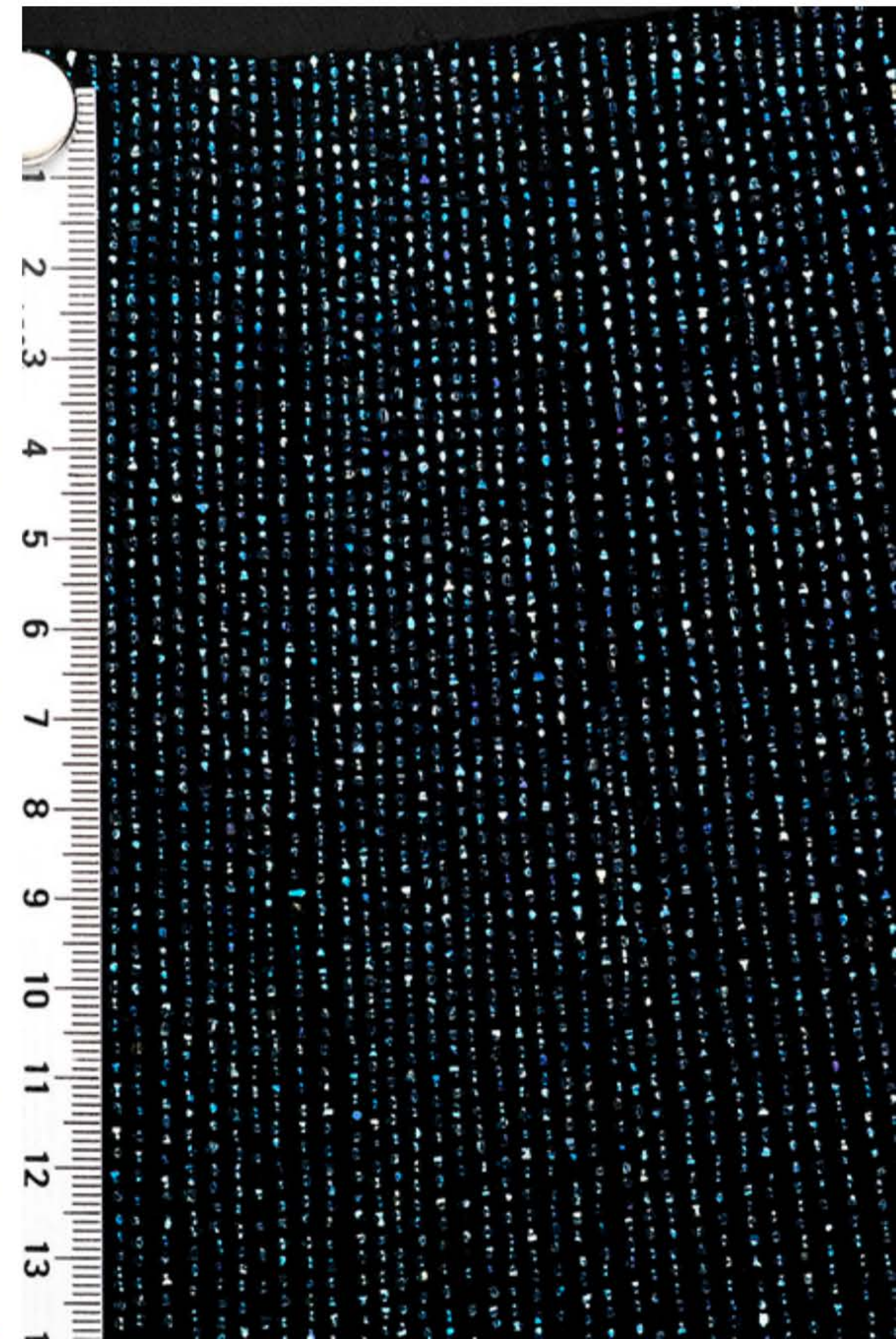
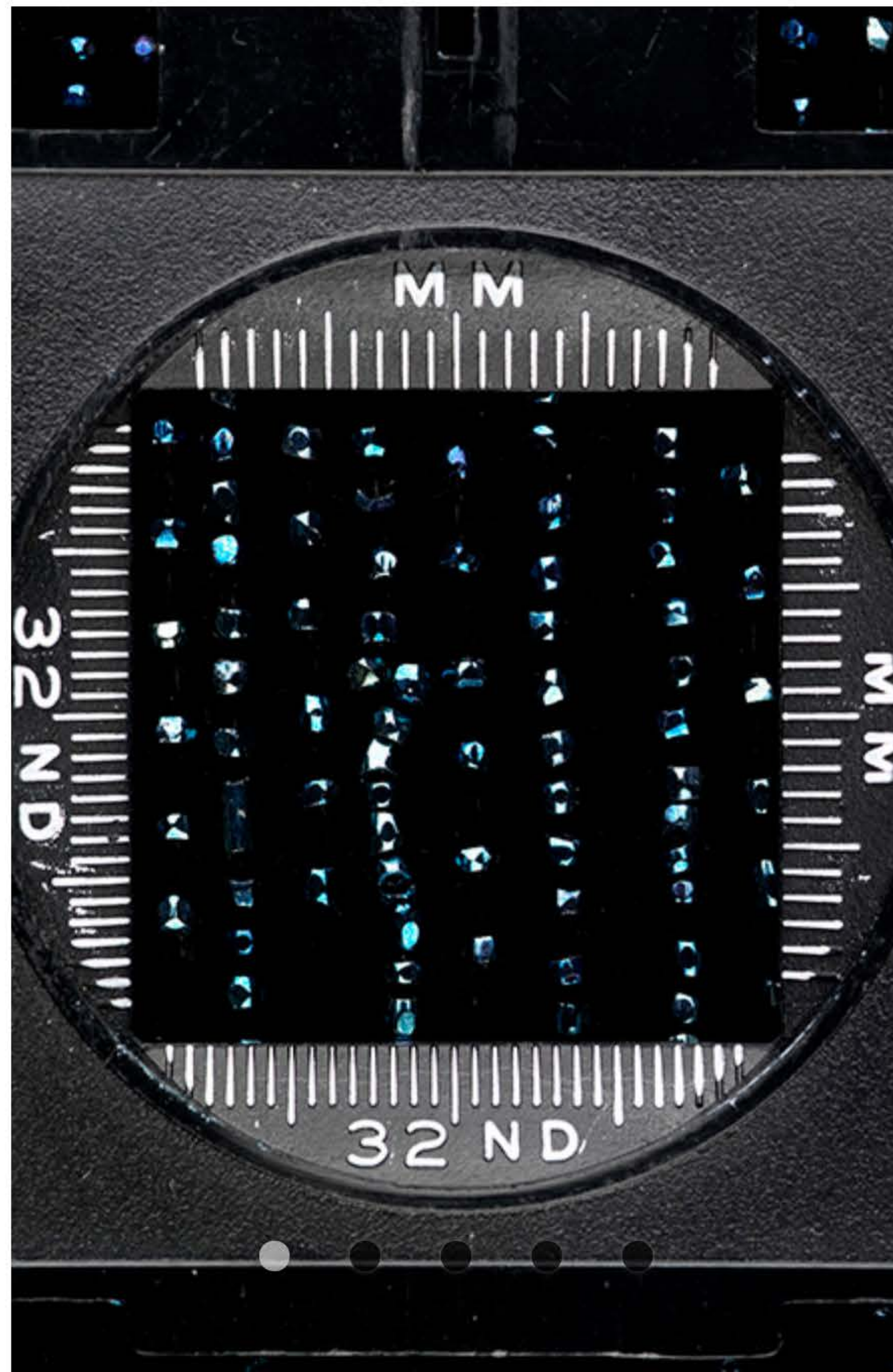


Left: The skirt has only one seam in the centre back. Bias pieces are inset at the back waist.



Right: Detail of irregular, faceted beads.

Below: The beading stops above the hem, framing the skirt. The marked lines for beading are drawn on the reverse.



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Invitation
AUTUMN-WINTER 1956

Photo Laziz Hamani



FR

Bodices. This is the most important part of any garment. It is near your face and has to make a nice frame for it.

— LITTLE DICTIONARY OF FASHION, CHRISTIAN DIOR, 1954

LINE	<i>Aimant</i>
OCCASION	Two-piece late-day dress
ATELIER TAILLEUR	Ida
MANNEQUIN	France
TEXTILE	Wool crepe called Gérolaine by Gerondeau; leather belt (reproduction)

974.280.2.A-B

GIFT OF MRS. A.J. WALKER • ON LOAN FROM THE ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM, TORONTO

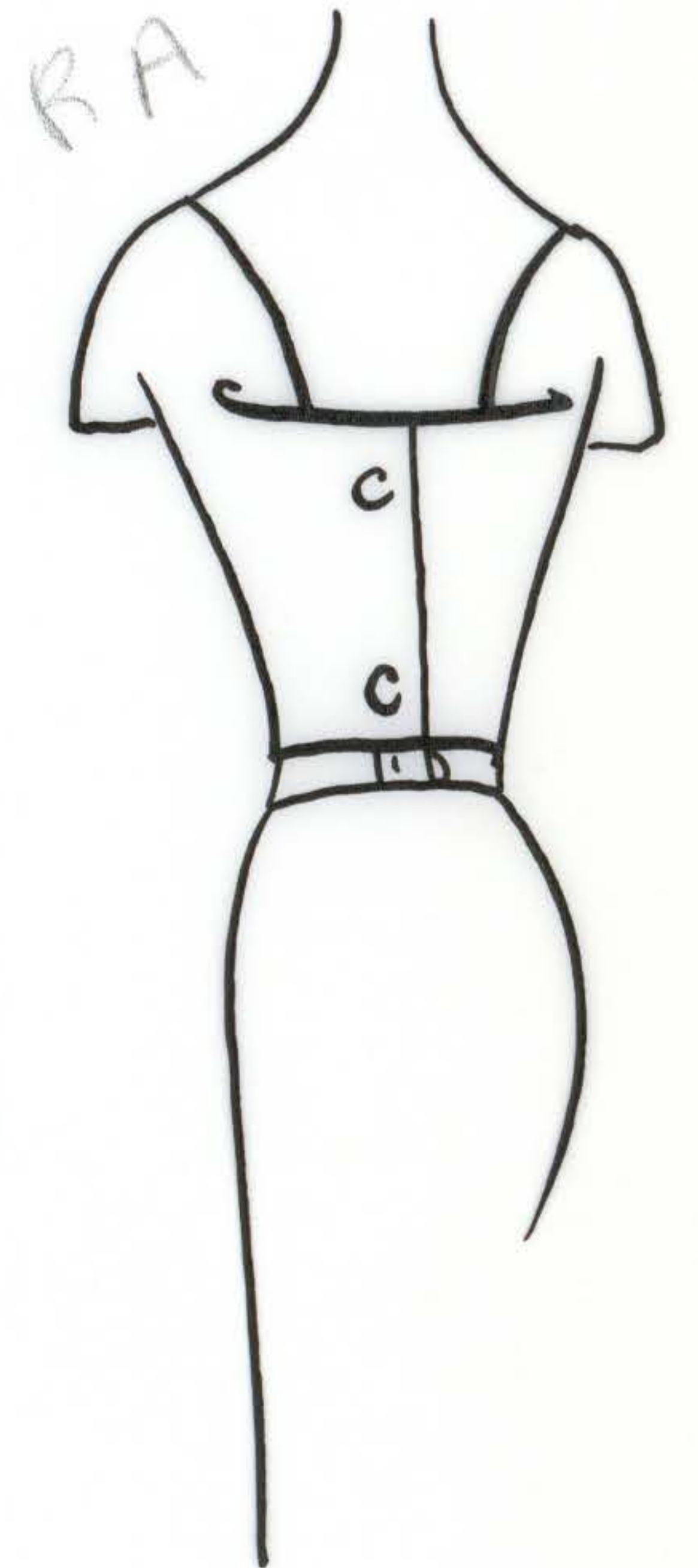


Press Sketch

DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS

Christian Dior
30, AVENUE MONTAIGNE
PARIS-8^e

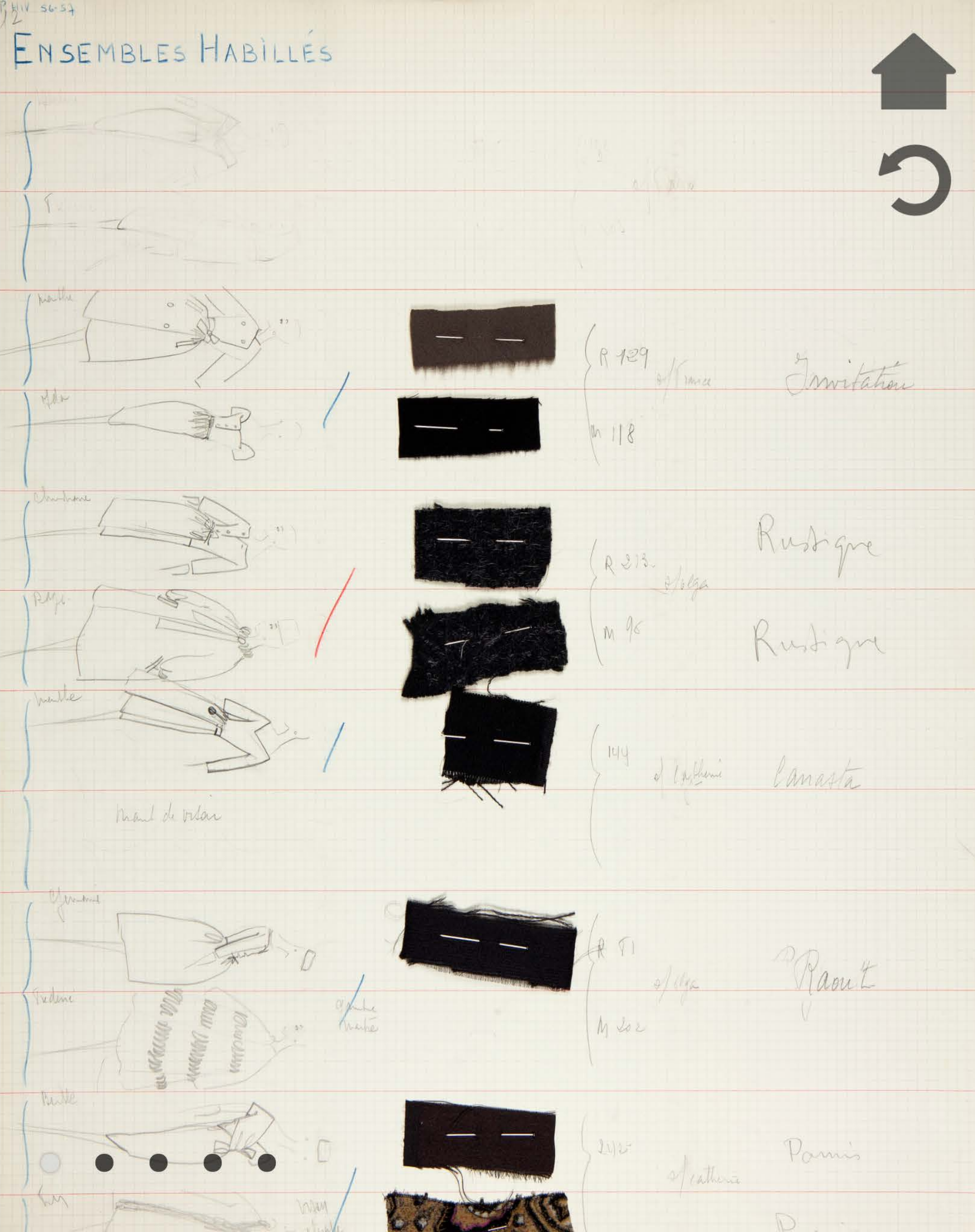
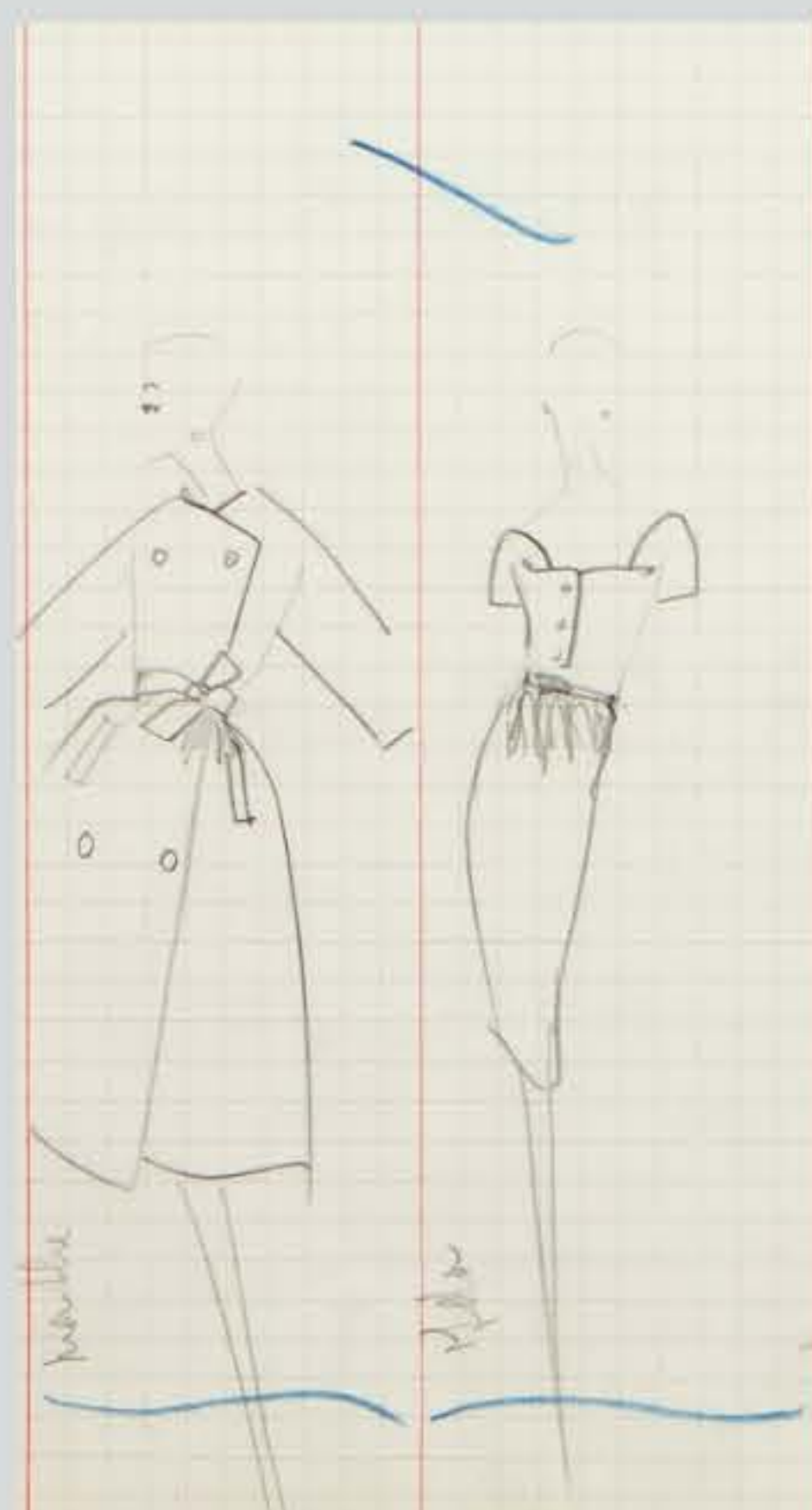
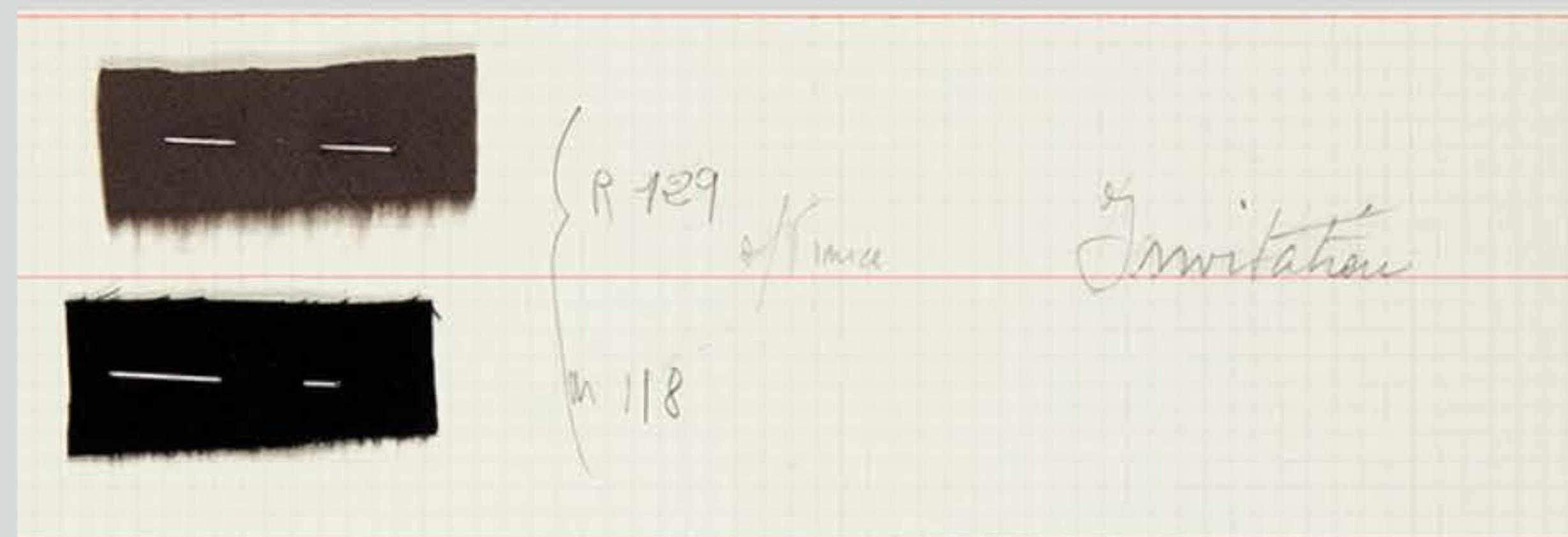
INVITATION



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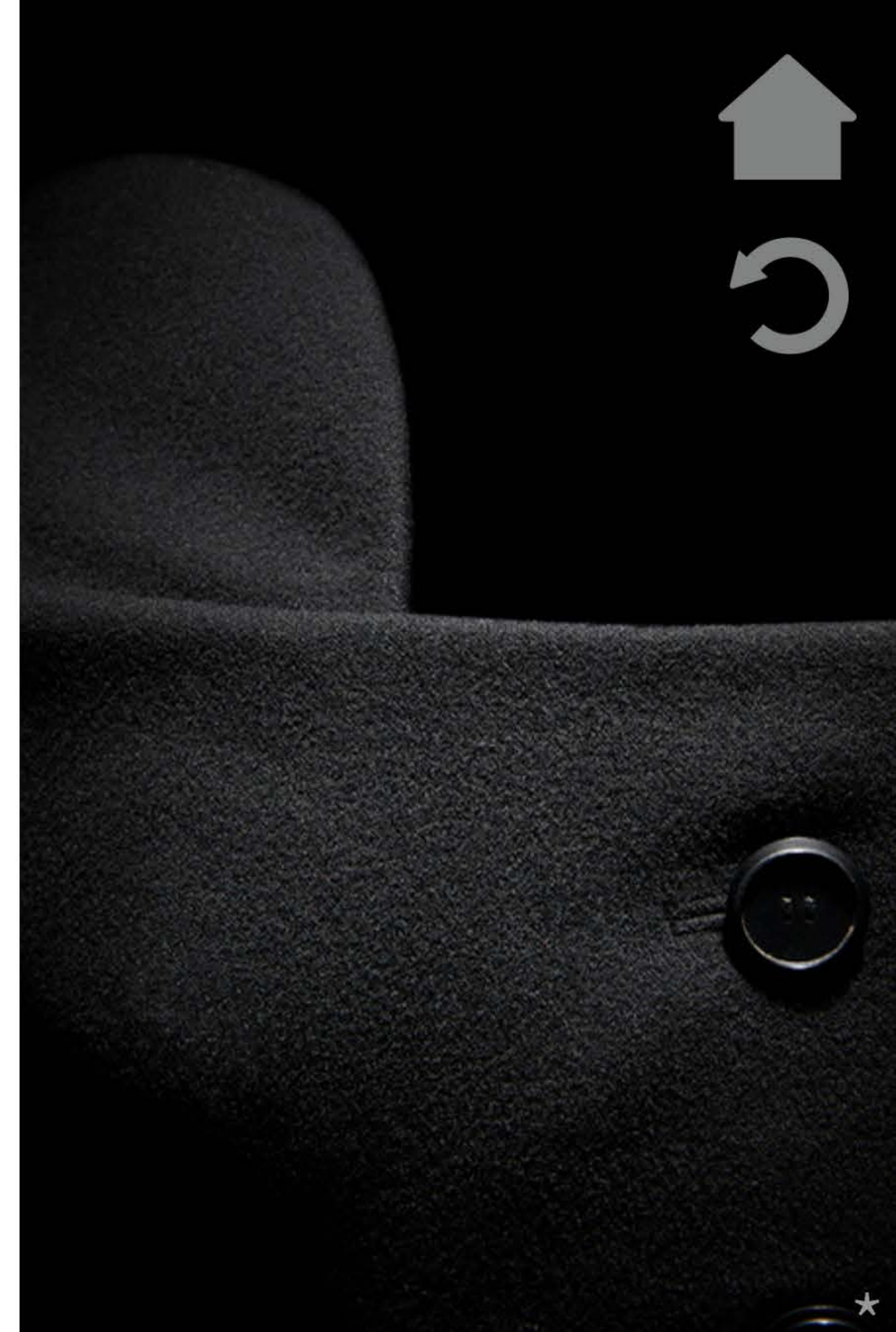
DIOR HÉRITAGE COLLECTION, PARIS



Christian Dior's mannequin, France, was the tallest in Paris (1.9 m / 6'3")

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





This ensemble was worn by Hannah Walker, wife of Alvin Walker, President of Holt Renfrew, who secured the licence to the Canadian rights to sell Christian Dior products. The skirt attaches to the bodice with hooks and eyes – like 19th-century two-piece dresses.

* PHOTOS LAZIZ HAMANI



The three-panel skirt uses the selvedge to reduce finishing. The selvedge is woven with the name of the textile GEROLAINE.

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Gérolaine - a velvety wool - developed by
Gérondeau

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