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Humanities

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Christian Dior (1905-1957) was a French fashion designer who rose to prominence in the 1940s and 1950s with his eponymous fashion house (Golbin, 2011). Born in Normandy, France, Dior was the son of a wealthy businessperson (Buxbaum, 2013). His love for fashion was influenced by his time spent in Paris during the 1930s, where he was exposed to the works of haute couture designers such as Madeleine Vionnet and Paul Poiret (Buxbaum, 2013). Dior's subjective experiences had a significant impact on the works of art he created. For instance, his time spent working for couturier Robert Piguet in the 1930s introduced him to the use of luxurious materials and attention to detail (Golbin, 2011). Additionally, Dior's own struggles with ill health influenced his designs, as he believed that fashion should be used to empower and uplift the wearer (Buxbaum, 2013). Why has Dior’s designs and style been so praised? Is there science behind why his art was so moving?

One of the main reasons why people admire Christian Dior is his innovative use of materials and silhouettes in his designs (Golbin, 2011). Dior is credited with introducing the "New Look" in 1947, which featured a fitted waist, full roots, and a long, flowing skirt (Golbin, 2011). This look was a departure from the more restrictive and utilitarian fashions of the World War II era, and it helped to revitalize the fashion industry in post-war Europe (Buxbaum, 2013). Personally, I admire the history of Christian Dior and the legacy he leaves. Dior is known for revolutionizing the women’s fashion industry and outlandish yet intricate designs. I want to know Dior’s motivation and how he viewed the world. Furthermore, I would like to know his perception of beauty and learn more about his methods.

In terms of research methods, this research paper will focus on analyzing the influence of Dior's personal experiences on his works of art. To do this, the paper will utilize a variety of sources, including primary sources such as Dior's own writings and interviews, as well as secondary sources such as biographies and fashion history texts. Relevant recent movies that could be considered in this analysis include "Dior and I" (2014) and "Dior: The Man Behind the Myth" (2022). These sources will be analyzed within the context of the cultural and historical context in which Dior's works were created. The research for this paper will be presented as a written report, which will include citations for all sources used. The report will first provide an overview of Dior's life and the influences that shaped his aesthetic and design philosophy. It will then delve into a more in-depth analysis of how his individual experiences affected and influenced his works of art, including specific examples from his designs. Finally, the report will conclude with a discussion of the lasting impact of Dior's work and the reasons why people continue to admire his designs. Overall, this paper aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of the influence of Christian Dior's firsthand experiences on his works of art. By examining a variety of sources and considering the cultural and historical context in which his designs were created, this research paper will offer a nuanced and insightful perspective on the life and work of this iconic fashion designer.

References:

Buxbaum, G. (2013). Christian Dior: The Man Who Made the World Look New. New York, NY: Abrams.

Golbin, P. (2011). Christian Dior Couturier du Rêve. Paris, France: Musée des Arts Décoratifs.