

Revolution in Fashion 1715-1815



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Kyoto

Date: 4th Apr. to 28th May, 1989

Place: The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto

Organizer: The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto
The Kyoto Costume Institute (KCI)

Curator: Takeo Uchiyama (The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto)
Akiko Fukai (The Kyoto Costume Institute)
Jun Kanai (The Kyoto Costume Institute)

New York (Titled: Ancien Régime: Revolution in Fashion)

Date: 1st Nov. 1989 to 17th Feb. 1990

Place: The Museum at FIT

Organizer: The Fashion Institute of Technology, New York (FIT),
The Kyoto Costume Institute

Curator: Richard Martin (The Museum at FIT)
Laura Sindaerbrand (The Museum at FIT)
Akiko Fukai (The Kyoto Costume Institute)
Jun Kanai (The Kyoto Costume Institute)

Paris (Titled : Elégances et Modes en France au XV^{ème} Siècle)

Date: 11th Jan. 1991 to 3rd Feb., 1992

Place: Musée des Arts Décoratifs

Organizer: Musée des Arts de la Mode et du Textile,
The Kyoto Costume Institute

Curator:

Yvonne Brunhammer (Musée des Arts de la Mode et du Textile)
Nadine Gasc (Musée des Arts de la Mode et du Textile)
Florence Muller (Union Française des Arts du Costume)
Akiko Fukai (The Kyoto Costume Institute)
Jun Kanai (The Kyoto Costume Institute)



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Outline

Focusing on 18th century clothing in France, this exhibition dramatizes the historical shifts that resulted in a move from a Rococo to a Neo-classical sensibility.

The Rococo court culture nurtured fashion, but with the French Revolution in 1789, followed by the rule of Napoleon and his subsequent downfall, the entire approach to fashion metamorphosed. For both men and women, the flamboyant court fashion of Louis XV and Louis XVI was the epitome of elegance, sophistication, and decorativeness. Neoclassicism inspired a simplification of line and form, and then, with the French Revolution, choice of fashion took on political implications. Simple and straightforward cotton clothing—in direct contrast to the lavish Rococo style—indicated a break with court culture. This shift from “silk” to “cotton” was also influenced by the Industrial Revolution underway in England at the time.

Exhibited pieces in Kyoto exhibition

Dresses:	112 pieces
Accessories:	49 pieces
Amount:	161 pieces