A WORLD OF STYLE

THE BEST OF OUR INTERNATIONAL EDITIONS

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PORTUGAL PARIS ST. PETERSBURG & MORE



Ai Weiwei dragon display for Le Bon Marché, BELOW:

Comme des

Garçons cape



An acrylic

slipper by Noritaka

Tatehana

Alice-inspired dress by Manish Arora.

ONCE UPON A TIME

From Cinderella's glass slipper to Red Riding Hood's cloak, clothing plays an important role in fables and folklore as symbols of power, identity, and metamorphosis. (Just ask any child in a Disney princess costume.) "Fairy Tale Fashion," at New York's Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology, looks at the way artists and fashion designers have visualized the enchanted garments in beloved stories. Classic illustrations by Edmund Dulac and Arthur Rackham complement fantastical interpretations by Alexander McQueen, who embellished a gown with copper-colored beads to evoke Rapunzel's hair, and Christian Louboutin, who reimagined Dorothy's ruby slippers as stilettos (January 15-April 16; fitnyc.edu). Meanwhile, Paris department store Le Bon Marché Rive Gauche commissioned artist Ai Weiwei to adorn its winter sale with a display of kitelike dragons of bamboo and silk, drawn from Chinese legend (January 16-February 20; lebonmarche.com).



Luxury retailers are taking the shopping experience in a personal direction. Ralph Lauren has turned a Milan palazzo into an elite boutique, above left and right-while the shop is open to the public, members are entitled to private fittings, exclusive pieces, and snacks made by an in-house chef (ralphlauren.com). At the London flagship of perfumer Jo Malone, shoppers can mix scents and customize bottles with the help of an on-site engraver (jomalone.com). New York's clubby Material Good, housed in a SoHo loft, right, sells new and vintage jewelry and watches alongside midcentury furniture-as well as Warhols and Basquiats-and offers such services as custom diamond design (materialgoodny.com).





WHAT WE LOVE

Amy West, an American glass artist based on the Venetian island of Murano, has launched a collection of dazzling glass-bead jewelry, above, for haute hardware-and-furnishings firm E.R. Butler & Co. Their colors, ranging from apple green to midnight blue, recall light rippling across the city's legendary lagoon (amywestdesign.com).