

WWWD WEEKEND

FEBRUARY 2004

Art of Couture

The pinnacle of fashion creativity, the spring couture shows in Paris stirred the imagination with their blend of mystery, craftsmanship – and sheer beauty.



Jean Paul
Gaultier,
An Original

Playing Mr. Dior

Gen Alpha
Skin Care

Small Time

Gem Garden

Highlights from Haute Joaillerie debuts.

COMPILED BY THOMAS WALLER

Nature's bounty of flora, fauna and fantastical phenomena continued to nourish the collections of high jewelers and had them horning with ideas.

Northern Lights at David Morris, southern Africa's magnificent wildlife with De Beers' or delicate leafy blossoms or apples as emboldened by Boucheron were among the directions explored.

Grande dame or repurposed were also a focus here, ranging from the exceptional Micromosaic tables of Graff and black opals at Dior to Louis Vuitton's Umbra sapphires and two takes on turquoise seen in designs by Cartier and independent jeweler Lydia Courteille.

For Boucheron, the emblems sourced from dormant socks that date back decades became the principal subject of the Frame line, reinterpreting the idea of a halo with a graphic band of lacquer and diamonds.

Juicy and colorful gemstones were also prominent throughout the high jewelry season, with examples including the blooming floral cluster that was showcased by sapphire specialist Asmi Paris. Throughout, transformation continued to be a winning feature for investment pieces that paid off.

—Lily Tempton

Cartier Le Voyage Récomposé high jewelry necklace in platinum with turquoise, coral, amethyst and diamonds.

