

Amber Valletta Revives the Iconic Versace Dress at CFDA Awards

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At the 2025 CFDA Awards, Amber Valletta made a appearance by slipping into a gown that holds major fashion history. She wore the jungle-print gown by Versace that is often associated with Jennifer Lopez at the 2000 Grammys. But crucially, Valletta was the first to wear it on the runway in 1999.

The dress resurfaced at the CFDA Awards as Valletta posed alongside Donatella Versace.

Designed by Donatella Versace, the gown features a bold tropical leafy print, a very deep plunging neckline. Along with sheer, robe-like silhouette that became one of fashion's most talked-about moments.

However its fame through Lopez, the original runway version was modelled by Amber Valletta in the Spring/Summer 2000 show. Therefore she honoured that fact by choosing it for the 2025 red-carpet.

Styling for the 2025 Red Carpet

For the event, Valletta paired the dress with gold sandal heels and gold Medusa-logo stud earrings. Thereby maintaining a sleek and elegant styling that allowed the dress to be the focus.

Her hair style in loose layered waves, echoing how it were during the original runway moment—adding a subtle nod to the heritage.

1. **Honouring heritage:** By wearing the dress, Valletta pays tribute not only to Versace's legacy but also to a pivotal moment in her own career and fashion history.
2. **Fashion nostalgia meets relevance:** The gown was once "the Google Images" moment—so iconic it triggered the creation of image search.
3. **Red-carpet storytelling:** Her styling choice ties directly to Donatella's award and highlights a respect for fashion history rather than just a new dress.

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