

Must-See Fashion Exhibitions Around the World in 2026

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As the fashion world evolves on runways and in museum halls, 2026 promises a **rich calendar of exhibitions** that celebrate iconic designers, pivotal movements, cultural narratives and the art of clothing itself. From legendary couturiers to thought-provoking biennales, here's a guide to standout events that fashion lovers shouldn't miss in the coming year.

Schiaparelli: *Fashion Becomes Art* – London

At the **Victoria & Albert Museum (V&A)** in London, an in-depth retrospective of Elsa Schiaparelli showcases how the surrealist couturier transformed fashion into artistic expression. Featuring her notable creations—from the Lobster Dress to surrealist-inspired accessories and atelier sketches—this exhibition highlights her daring collaborations with artists like Salvador Dalí.

? **Where & When:** V&A South Kensington, London | March 28 – November 1, 2026

Alaïa: *L'Art de la Ligne* – Paris

Parisian fashion lovers can explore the sculptural brilliance of **Azzedine Alaïa** at Fondation Azzedine Alaïa. The show focuses on his mastery of silhouette and form, featuring body-hugging dresses, leather pieces and early prototypes that trace his evolution as one of fashion's most respected minimalist visionaries.

? **Where & When:** Fondation Azzedine Alaïa, Paris | Until May 24, 2026

The Antwerp Six – Antwerp

This exhibition celebrates the groundbreaking designers behind the **Antwerp Six**, whose experimental work in the 1980s helped establish Belgium as a major fashion capital. The show presents these innovators side by side, inviting visitors to trace how their collective and individual styles reshaped contemporary fashion.

? **Where & When:** ModeMuseum (MoMu), Antwerp | March 28, 2026 – January 17, 2027

Embroidering Palestine – Antwerp

Also at MoMu, this textile-centered exhibition explores the enduring cultural significance of Palestinian embroidery—showing how textiles act as **visual narratives of identity, heritage and resilience** across generations.

? **Where & When:** ModeMuseum (MoMu), Antwerp | December 13, 2025 – June 7, 2026

State Fashion Biennale 2026 – Arnhem

Held across multiple venues in the Netherlands, the **State Fashion Biennale** delves into fashion's **social, ecological and cultural questions** rather than focusing solely on aesthetic output. Exhibits spotlight material innovation, sustainable practices, and emergent design thinking.

? **Where & When:** Various locations, Arnhem | May 14 – June 28, 2026

Costume Art – New York

At **The Metropolitan Museum of Art (The Met)** in New York, *Costume Art* bridges fashion and fine art by exploring how clothing relates to the human body. The exhibition—which underpins the 2026 Met Gala—pairs historical and contemporary garments with artworks to examine fashion through the lens of embodiment and artistic expression.

? **Where & When:** The Met Fifth Avenue, New York | May 10, 2026 – January 2027

Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Style – London

At The King's Gallery in Buckingham Palace, this unprecedented exhibition offers a **comprehensive look at Queen Elizabeth II's wardrobe**—featuring iconic ceremonial gowns, personal ensembles and fashion that subtly communicated diplomacy and national identity.

? **Where & When:** The King's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, London | April 10 – October 18, 2026

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