

"Lady Dior goes through another reinvention," Elle Canada, December 2020 issue.

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Fine ART

Lady Dior goes through
another reinvention.

Dior's perennial bag, the Lady Dior, became iconic the moment it appeared on the arm of Princess Diana. Now, for the fifth year in a row, the French house has granted a group of internationally renowned artists free rein to use its staple piece as a blank canvas. Among the class of creatives involved in this year's covetable Dior Lady Art collection? Vancouver-born, Puerto Rico-raised sculptor Gisela Colón, who translated her signature ethereal artistry onto two new handbags. Here are three things to know about Colón's gallery-worthy limited-edition pieces.

OTHERWORLDLY INFLUENCES As with much of her other work, Colón looked to the skies for inspiration while designing her bags, dubbed Stardust and Amazonia. The hypnotizing holographic depictions of interstellar mysteries—like deep space and the aurora borealis—are also a nod to Christian Dior's love of the stars and divination.

PRACTICAL MAGIC Each bag features a miniature version of Colón's enigmatic, podlike monolith statues, which the artist uses to evoke feelings of power, beauty and equality.

ETERNAL STYLE While Colón sees the original Lady Dior as an outfit-elevating accessory, the sculptor wants her creations to grab attention and inspire grand musings.

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Arts • Fashion & Beauty • Entertainment

1 Dec 2020

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CANADA

LETITIA WRIGHT
TAKES HER SEAT AT THE TABLE

DECEMBER 2020/
JANUARY 2021

PARTY LINES

Is sexism
A POLITICAL
STRATEGY?

CRAVE-
WORTHY
BAGS



HOW TO
ditch POST-
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slit skirts and ostrich-feather-festooned robes—a sartorial acknowledgement that fashion can serve as both a reflection of our times and a protest against them. Oscar de la Renta's fall collection featured cocktail dresses in a party of jubilant hues. Meanwhile, JW Anderson's resort 2021 collection (designed mid-lockdown) is all fluid silhouettes and giddy colour, as if each piece were a misfire from a happier, more hopeful future. In his show notes, Anderson explained that he hoped "a sentiment of youthful, free-wheeling amusement composed comes to the fore." Indeed, his dresses are accented with pompoms, and some are even trimmed with what look like "wings," prompting us to think of fashion as a means of flight. The levity and whimsy of the collection—its oblique response to the gloom of reality—are an act of optimism and dissent. After all, if we're sailing toward the end, why not twist our way there in pompoms? Or in more galactic sparkle than you'd find in the Milky Way, as designer Julien Dossena of Spanish fashion house Paco Rabanne proposed in his spring/summer 2021 collection staged in Paris' Le Marais neighbourhood?

All of this defiant glamour makes me think of Wallace Hartley, the band-leader on the *Titanic* who played his violin while the liner slipped into the icy North Atlantic—a legend of bravery and a celebration of art and beauty in the face of tragedy. Okay, opting for sequins over sweats may not be akin to leading an eight-player band on a sinking ship, but there is a certain courage and abandon and cork-popping liberation to giving into despair, a what-are-we-waiting-for freedom to dressing for The End. Because if that's not an occasion, what is?



FACCELANTE SPINNING COLORED GLASS



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Three-glymers-dense-fabrication, Nylon (\$470, [see more](#))



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TLOE Eye-catching, eye-catching, eye-catching piece.

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ELLE STYLE



Hidden GEM

What: EXTRAORDINARY TIFFANY, the luxe brand's latest high-jewellery collection.

Inspiration: Victoria Reynolds, Tiffany & Co.'s first female chief gemologist, celebrates the house's affinity for vivid jewels by playing with geometric shapes and bold colours, creating pieces that are at once edgy and timeless.

Collection highlight: The Tiffany Golden Star necklace, a jaw-dropping piece made of platinum, 18-karat yellow gold and layers of mixed-cut diamonds, including the stunning 21-carat pear-shaped Fancy Intense Yellow diamond.