**Yves Saint Laurent: The Retrospective**

**Exhibition Fact Sheet**

**DESCRIPTION:**

*Yves Saint Laurent: The Retrospective* is a sweeping retrospective of the designer’s 40 years of creativity. The Denver Art Museum (DAM) is the only venue in the United States for the exhibition, which features a stunning selection of 200 haute couture outfits along with numerous photographs, drawings and films that illustrate the development of Saint Laurent’s style and the historical foundations of his work. Organized thematically, the presentation melds design and art to explore the full arc of Saint Laurent’s career, from his first days at Dior in 1958 through the splendor of his final runway collection in 2002. Curated by Florence Müller and overseen by Pierre Bergé, *Yves Saint Laurent* premiered in Paris in 2010 at the Petit Palais, Musée des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Paris, and will be on view in the Anschutz and Martin and McCormick galleries in DAM’s Hamilton Building from March 25, 2012, through July 8, 2012.

During his 40 years of designing, Saint Laurent (1936–2008) revolutionized the female wardrobe by borrowing the tuxedo, the trouser suit, shorts and the safari jacket from men's clothing, transferring these symbols of power from one gender to the other. He empowered women with this new form of clothing, turning traditional menswear into haute couture. He reflected women’s changing role in society ahead of any other designer, setting the hit styles of the day.

**PROGRAMMING:**

The exhibition presents a multifaceted view of one of this century’s most influential and important designers. The museum will host a variety of programming ranging from tours to lectures and adult classes. For the most up-to-date information, visit [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org).

**WHEN:**

March 25, 2012, through July 8, 2012

**EXHIBITION DETAILS:**

The exhibition will be on view in the DAM's Anschutz Gallery and Martin and McCormick Gallery, on the second level of the Frederic C. Hamilton Building. *Yves Saint Laurent* is accompanied by a beautifully illustrated catalogue that is available at the Denver Art Museum Shop throughout the run of the show. Each exhibition ticket also includes an audio guide.

**TICKETS:**

**Member and General Ticketing**

DAM members have the opportunity to purchase tickets at a discounted price, as well as access to a year of exhibitions and programming at the museum. Memberships and tickets may be purchased online at [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org) or on-site. *Yves Saint Laurent* exhibition tickets go on sale to members January 13, 2012, and to the general public on January 20, 2012. Ticket holders receive admission to the *Yves Saint Laurent* exhibition and an audio guide, in addition to general admission to the DAM, and may visit the museum’s other exhibitions and galleries.
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MUSEUM HOURS AND LOCATION:
The museum is open 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Tuesday–Thursday and Saturday–Sunday; 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Friday. The final Friday mixed media event *Untitled* returns January of 2012 and the museum is open until 10 p.m. during those events. The museum is closed to the public every Monday. For hours and general museum information, visit [www.denverartmuseum.org](http://www.denverartmuseum.org) or call 720-865-5000. The Denver Art Museum is located on 13th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock streets, just south of Civic Center Park. Parking is available in the Cultural Complex Garage; enter from 12th Avenue west of Broadway.

DENVER CONNECTIONS:
The DAM is thrilled to bring the stunning style and design of Saint Laurent to Denver. As the only venue in the United States, the museum hopes to draw design, fashion and culture lovers from near and far.

Denver is home to a blossoming fashion and design community. This exhibition demonstrates the museum’s commitment to presenting and examining creativity in all its manifestations. Saint Laurent drew inspiration from art and said that his craft “depends on artists for existence.” The exhibition draws direct lines between the designer and the artists he admired including Piet Mondrian, Picasso, Matisse and Van Gogh. Many of these masters are on view in the permanent collection galleries at the museum.

The museum’s leadership visited Paris last summer, saw the show and was so moved by the presentation and the connection between art, design and style that it wanted to bring the exhibition to the DAM to share with the U.S. audience. The immersive and interactive environment of the *Yves Saint Laurent* exhibition complements the DAM’s onsite programming. As a leader in the field of interactive experiences that explore creativity and engage participants, the DAM will also have a Fashion Studio connecting the fashion and design community with the exhibition and its visitors.

The museum built the Hamilton Building so that it could host international traveling exhibitions. The groundbreaking architectural elements of the Daniel Libeskind-designed building will complement perfectly the revolutionary designs of Saint Laurent.

HOTEL PACKAGES:
A dozen Mile High City hotels are offering *Yves Saint Laurent: The Retrospective* VIP packages, many of which are now available to book online on the YSL Denver website, [www.YSLdenver.com](http://www.YSLdenver.com). Guests who purchase the VIP hotel packages will receive two tickets valid for any date and time along with an audio guide for the stunning exhibition for each room booked. The tickets also allow guests to enter the exhibit at the next available time slot, completely bypassing any lines. Participating hotels include: The Brown Palace Hotel & Spa; the Comfort Inn; Four Seasons Hotel Denver; Grand Hyatt Denver; Hilton Garden Inn – Denver Cherry Creek; Hotel Monaco Denver; Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center; JW Marriott Denver Cherry Creek; The Ritz-Carlton Denver; Sheraton Denver Downtown; The Curtis; and the Westin Downtown Denver.

EXHIBITION ORGANIZERS AND SPONSORS:
*Yves Saint Laurent: The Retrospective* is organized by the Fondation Pierre Bergé-Yves Saint Laurent in collaboration with the Denver Art Museum. Additional support is provided by the Fine Arts Foundation, the citizens who support the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) and the generous donors to the Annual Fund Leadership Campaign. Promotional support is provided by *5280 Magazine*, CBS4 and *The Denver Post*.

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