

## Trend 1 – Fur As Fabric



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1. Christian Dior
2. Elie Saab
3. Elie Saab
4. Alexis Mabille
5. Jean Paul Gaultier
6. Yiqing Yin



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A strong look to come from the Couture collections was that of fur worked as print and pattern. Sometimes appliquéd on to semi-sheer eveningwear fabrics like chiffon and organza to create a textural patterned feel. This look was strongest at Elie Saab but also came through as the only fur item at Christian Dior. Elsewhere, we saw other technical marvels such as Jean Paul Gaultier's Alpine sweater or newcomer Yiqing Yin's geographical knit fabrication which was a contrast in modern and primitive. Spectacularly, printed fur was all-transforming in a full-length evening gown silhouette as seen at Alexis Mabille.

## Trend 2 – Shoulder Definition



1. Jean Paul Gaultier
2. On Aura Tout Vu
3. Azzedine Alaïa
4. Quentin Veron
5. Quentin Veron
6. Giambattista Vali



In line with Evans McDaniel trend Keepsake, there was a huge emphasis on both shoulder definition and the high neck. Here, we see everything from sleek fox applied to eveningwear, padded leather worn over full fur, a classic cape shoulder on outerwear to a full fur capelet or a Joan of Arc style fur and leather tabard. This style was best demonstrated at Quentin Veron, which was entirely on trend and looked most directional as a collection. We loved this show... with its youthful energy and edgy point of view.

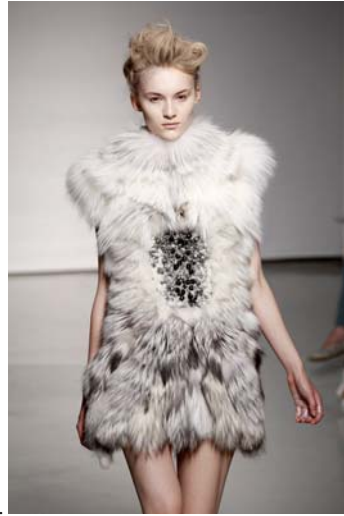
## Trend 3 – The High Neck



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1. Jean Paul Gaultier
2. Jean Paul Gaultier
3. Yiqing Yin
4. Quentin Veron
5. Quentin Veron
6. Gustavo Lins

One of the strongest trends to emerge for fall, the Elizabethan-inspired ruff or high neck, was well confirmed on the Couture runways as well as RTW. Mostly medieval looking in nature, as was forecast in our Keepsake trend, it was interesting to see this element applied to menswear at Jean Paul Gaultier or worked into eveningwear and contrasted with sheer fabrications, giving it a softer, although, no less dramatic appeal.

## Trend 4 – Fur Sleeves

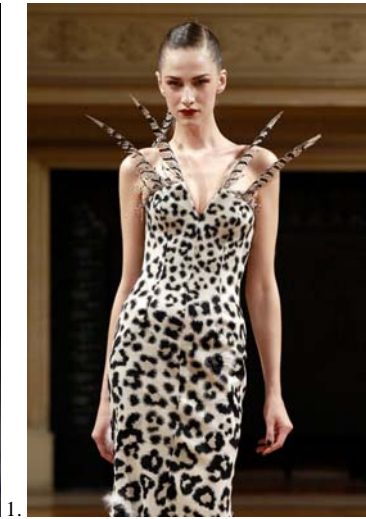


1. Jean Paul Gaultier
2. Quentin Veron
3. Alexis Mabille
4. Alexis Mabille
5. On Aura Tout Vu
6. Quentin Veron

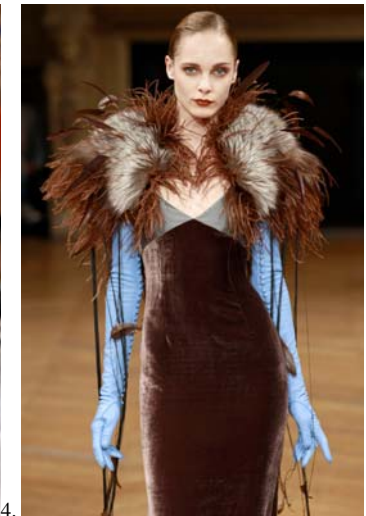


Another very strong trend for fall 2011 was the full fur sleeve, most often worked in fox for contrast of long and flat textures. We saw long-haired fur sleeves applied to full length evening wear silhouettes at both Jean Paul Gaultier and Alexis Mabille while at On Aura Tout Vu, fur sleeves were set on to delicate lace. A more modern take was seen at Quentin Veron through the use of asymmetric styling and contrasting fur combinations. Again, all very on trend.

## Trend 5 – Fur & Feathers



1. Jean Paul Gaultier
2. Alexis Mabille
3. Jean Paul Gaultier
4. Giambattista Valli
5. Alexis Mabille
6. Jean Paul Gaultier



With feathers being such an important trend, we are now seeing the combination of fur and feathers worked together in fabrication to create the ultimate in tactile luxury. Most importantly seen at Jean Paul Gaultier where technique was all-important, as in his peacock fur lined jacket, but also seen at Alexis Mabille and Giambattista Valli.

## Trend 6 – Coloured Fur



1.



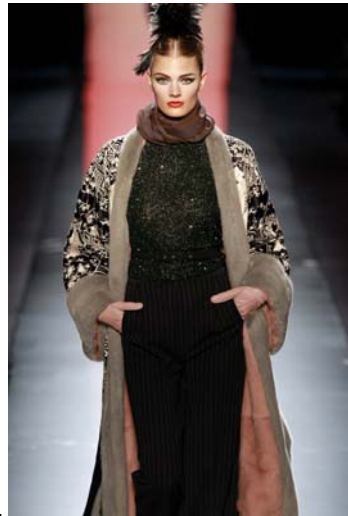
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6.

1. Elie Saab
2. Azzedine Alaia
3. Azzedine Alaia
4. Jean Paul Gaultier
5. Jean Paul Gaultier
6. Jean Paul Gaultier

Couture saw a fair amount of coloured fur, strong at both Azzedine Alaia & Jean Paul Gaultier, although it looked best in more muted tones rather than pop brights. Elie Saab used pretty pale tones for eveningwear but the most directional looks came from Gaultier, where coloured furs added interesting contrast when used as linings to Poiret-inspired opera coats or as an off-beat contrast to the all-important nylon parka.