Dress - Invitation dress

Object: Dress

Place of origin: Japan (designed)

Date: 21st century (made)

Artist/Maker: Uehara, Kumiko (designer)

Baby, the Stars Shine Bright (BSSB) - Alice and the Pirates is a diffusion line of the brand BSSB dedicated to a slightly more punk/pirate side of the Sweet Lolita (designer)

Credit Line: Given by the designer

Museum number: FE.305:1 to 4-2011

Gallery location: Japan, Room 45, The Toshiba Gallery, case 7

Public access description

This item is part of one of the "Sweet Lolita" outfits on display from 23 April 2012 to January 2013 in the "Kitty and the Bulldog Lolita fashion and the influence of Britain" exhibition at the V&amp;A. Part of the V&amp;A British Design Season.

Lolita fashion emerged during the 1990s as a radical form of street style born out of the Japanese taste for Hello Kitty cuteness. Whether dressed in pink, powder blue, red, white or black, Lolitas are immediately recognisable by their doll-like make-up, frilly skirts, fanciful headgear, ribbons and lace. A striking feature of Lolita fashion is the extent to which it is influenced by British culture: Alice in Wonderland, Glam Rock, the New Romantics, Gothic, Punk and Vivienne Westwood. Although the attitude and aggression of Punk and Gothic have no place in the world of the Lolita, the movement represents a similarly powerful rebellion against the conventions of contemporary society. The first three sections of the display are devoted to Sweet, Gothic and Punk Lolita. The final section, Japanese Lolita, shows how a fascination with the exotic and alternative has resulted in the reappropriation and sometimes extreme recasting of traditional modes of Japanese dress.

Descriptive line

Dress with bow and sashes 'Invitation dress', cotton, designed by Kumiko Uehara at Baby, the Stars Shine Bright, Japan, 21st century

Physical description

Pinafore dress of pale blue lace trimmed cotton twill. With a printed tea party design, ribbons, a large detachable bow on the front and detachable sashes at the back.

Dimensions

Height: 90 cm, Width: 31 cm waist, Width: 84 cm hem, Length: 22 cm bow, Height: 22 cm bow, Length: 75 cm sashes, Width: 5 cm sashes

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URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1241789/invitation-dress-dress-uehara-kumiko/