Choker - The Pagan Collection

Object: Choker

Place of origin: Paris (made)

Date: late 1938 (made)

Artist/Maker: Elsa Schiaparelli, born 1890 - died 1973 (designer)

Materials and Techniques: Silk and velvet ribbons with gilt pine cones

Credit Line: Given by Miss Ruth Ford

Museum number: T.413-1974

Gallery location: Fashion, Room 40, case CA10

Public access description
This dramatic necklace was part of Elsa Schiaparelli’s Pagan Collection of Autumn 1938. Schiaparelli was famous for her creative fashion designs and unexpected surreal touches. Her bold approach to colour is demonstrated by this necklace, which sets purple velvet bows against an acid yellow grosgrain ribbon choker. Each bow has a gilt pine-cone suspended from it on a thin chain.

The Pagan Collection featured themes and motifs drawn from nature - blossom, leaves, and even insects. The Museum also has a hat from this collection that is trimmed with crawling beetles (see T.427-1974).

Descriptive line

Physical description
Yellow grosgrain ribbon choker, decorated with purple velvet ribbon bows and gilt pine cones suspended from each bow.

Museum number
T.413-1974

Object history note
Donated by Miss Ruth Ford, who also donated other Schiaparelli garments and accessories to us. (see items T.392 to 396-1974; and T.411 to 413-1974)

URL
http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O136994/the-pagan-collection-choker-elsa-schiaparelli/