

## Yves Saint Laurent Landmark dates

- 1936** Yves Saint Laurent is born on August 1 in Oran, Algeria, where he spends his entire youth.
- 1953** At the age of seventeen, he shows his fashion sketches to Michel de Brunhoff, editor-in-chief of Paris *Vogue*, who encourages him to persevere.
- 1954** Yves Saint Laurent moves to Paris and enrolls at the school of the Chambre Syndicale de la Haute Couture.
- 1955** Michel de Brunhoff introduces him to Christian Dior, who hires him as his personal assistant.
- 1957** Yves Saint Laurent takes over from Christian Dior after his death.
- 1958** In January, he presents his first collection, «The Trapeze Line», which is a great success.  
  
He meets Pierre Bergé, and receives the Neiman Marcus Award.
- 1959** First theater costume designs by Yves Saint Laurent, Roland Petit's ballet *Cyrano de Bergerac*.
- 1960** Called up to do his military service and hospitalized at Val de Grâce, he is fired by the Dior fashion house.
- 1961** Opens the Yves Saint Laurent fashion house with Pierre Bergé.
- 1962** On January 29, Yves Saint Laurent presents his first collection at 30, bis rue Spontini, Paris.
- 1965** Design of the famous *Mondrian* dress, his first tribute to art.
- 1966** First tuxedo and tribute to Pop art.  
  
Opening of the first Saint Laurent *rive gauche* ready-to-wear shop, 21, rue de Tournon, Paris.  
  
Yves Saint Laurent receives the *Harper's Bazaar* «Oscar» award.
- 1967** Major African tribute. First safari jacket design.  
  
Yves Saint Laurent publishes a comic book, *La Vilaine Lulu* (Éditions Tchou).
- 1968** Produces his first see-through designs and first jumpsuit.



- 1971** The Spring-Summer 1971 «Forties» collection causes a scandal.  
Launch of the *rive gauche* perfume.
- 1973** Costume design for Maya Plisetskaya in Roland Petit's ballet *La Rose malade*.  
Costume designs for Jeanne Moreau, Delphine Seyrig, Samy Frey, Michael Lonsdale, and Gérard Depardieu in Peter Handke's play *La Chevauchée sur le lac de Constance*, directed by Claude Régy.
- 1974** Yves Saint Laurent and Pierre Bergé open the fashion house's new premises at 5, avenue Marceau, Paris.
- 1976** The «Opera and Ballets Russes» collection is a triumph.
- 1977** Launch of the *Opium* perfume.
- 1978** Yves Saint Laurent designs the sets and costumes for Jean Cocteau's *L'Aigle à deux têtes* at the Athénée-Louis-Jouvet theater.
- 1979** Tribute collection to Pablo Picasso and Sergei Diaghilev.
- 1981** Designs Marguerite Yourcenar's uniform for her induction as a member of the Académie Française.
- 1982** Yves Saint Laurent receives the International Fashion Award of the Council of Fashion Designers of America on the evening the Fashion House celebrates its twentieth anniversary.
- 1983** Retrospective at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. It is the first time the museum hosts an exhibition devoted to a living fashion designer.
- 1985** Retrospective at the Palace of Fine Arts in Beijing.  
Yves Saint Laurent is made a knight of the Légion d'Honneur by French President François Mitterrand.
- 1986** Retrospective in Paris at the Musée des Arts de la Mode.  
Retrospective in Moscow at the New Tretyakov Gallery.
- 1987** Retrospective at the State Hermitage Museum, Saint Petersburg.  
Retrospective at the Art Gallery of New South Wales in Sydney.
- 1988** Tribute to Vincent van Gogh with the *Iris* and *Sunflowers* ensembles.
- 1990** *Yves Saint Laurent, 1958-1990* exhibition at the Sezon Museum of Art in Tokyo.



- 1992** Yves Saint Laurent celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of his fashion house at the Paris Bastille Opera House.
- 1998** Yves Saint Laurent parades 300 models over the grass in France's national sports stadium, the Stade de France, during the Soccer World Cup.
- 2002** On January 7, Yves Saint Laurent announces his retirement.

On January 22, last retrospective fashion show at the Centre Georges-Pompidou, tracing Saint Laurent's forty years of design.

On December 5, the Fondation Pierre Bergé-Yves Saint Laurent is officially established as a nonprofit foundation. Its mission is to conserve 5,000 haute couture garments and 150,000 accessories, sketches and other objects making up the collection, to organise thematic exhibitions on fashion, painting, photography, the decorative arts, etc., and to support cultural and educational activities.

- 2004** On March 10, the foundation opens its doors to the public with the exhibition *Yves Saint Laurent, Dialogue avec l'Art*.
- 2007** French President Nicolas Sarkozy elevates Yves Saint Laurent to the distinguished rank of grand officer of the Légion d'Honneur.
- 2008** *Dialogo con el arte* exhibition at the Fondation Caixa Galicia (La Coruña) in Spain.

Forty years of haute couture creation are on display at the *Yves Saint Laurent Style* exhibition at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and at the de Young Museum in San Francisco.

On June 1, Yves Saint Laurent dies at his Paris home in his seventy-second year.

- 2010** The Fondation Pierre Bergé – Yves Saint Laurent organises a retrospective of Yves Saint Laurent's life's work at the Petit Palais in Paris. This exhibition is scheduled to go on a world tour.

