

The Dressmaker's '50s fashions take centre stage

First Phryne Fisher's fashions wowed us, now the stunning haute couture costumes of the critically acclaimed Australian film, *The Dressmaker*, are coming to turn our heads.

Adelaide's stately Ayers House Museum will again host a major new exhibition featuring the artful and luxurious fashions that were the silent stars of the recent cinematic hit.

The *Dressmaker* Costume Exhibition, which opens on Thursday 1 September, features many of the costumes worn by Kate Winslet, Liam Hemsworth, South Australia's Sarah Snook, and the cast of the movie of the same name.

It follows the runaway success of the *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries* exhibition at Ayers House Museum earlier this year, which featured the costumes from the popular ABC television series. Both exhibitions were developed for the National Trust by award-winning Australian designer Marion Boyce.

"Miss Fisher was our most successful show ever, attracting 30,000 people who wanted to get a taste of the luxury haute couture of the 1920s," said National Trust SA CEO Dr Darren Peacock.

"The *Dressmaker* takes us to the 1950s, where the clothes were quite different but no less elaborate. And what made the movie so visually stunning was its celebration of high fashion against the backdrop of the dusty Australian outback town of Dungatar."

It took two top designers – Boyce and Margot Wilson – to create the comprehensive wardrobe. The exhibition features more than 50 of them, including what Boyce jokingly refers to as the "Seal the Deal" dress worn by Snook's character in the film.

"This is a very intimate exhibition," Dr Peacock said. "Visitors will be able to see how the costumes, which were inspired by Parisian couture, were carefully created for the film. The detail and artisanship are quite extraordinary."

"This is an important part of our history and as a bonus it is visually stunning."

The exhibition is presented by the National Trust in association with Film Art Media and Marion Boyce. It will run until 11 December (10am-5pm, daily Tuesday- Sunday)

For more information and to pre-purchase tickets : www.dressmakerexhibition.com.au

Follow the exhibition on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter at Ayers House Museum.

**The Dressmaker Costume Exhibition, Ayers House, 288 North Terrace, Adelaide
- Thursday 1 September – Sunday 11 December. (Open Tuesday- Sunday, 10am-5pm)**

