# Princess Diana’s 1996 Met Gala look redefined royal fashion and celebrity couture



L’HISTOIRE, in a recent feature, delves into pivotal fashion moments that have shaped contemporary style, highlighting the intersection of celebrity and couture. With the 2025 Met Gala approaching, there is a renewed interest in the event’s storied past, particularly pivotal appearances that have left a lasting impression.

One such moment is Princess Diana's appearance at the 1996 Met Gala, marking both her first and last attendance at this renowned fashion event. Almost three decades later, her choice of attire continues to be heralded as one of the most memorable in the Gala's rich history. The look she sported masterfully fused royal elegance with the bold sensibilities of 1990s fashion, capturing an essence that was uniquely Diana.

At the time, Princess Diana had begun to foster a creative partnership with designer John Galliano, who had recently taken the helm as creative director at Dior. For this occasion, her choice of a daring navy blue slip gown crafted from rich satin was notable for its unexpected sensuality, signalling a departure from conventional royal attire. The gown, adorned with delicate black lace along the straps and hem, exemplified Galliano’s renowned flair for drama and edge.

Designed with a corseted bodice that provided both structure and form, the gown embraced a daring aesthetic that may have been seen as unconventional for a member of the royal family. However, Diana's effortless grace allowed her to pull off the look with aplomb, showcasing her ability to transcend traditional fashion norms while remaining a figure of sophistication.

Her attendance at the Met Gala is remembered not only for the striking outfit but also as a significant cultural marker, reflecting a time when the boundaries of fashion and royalty began to blur. The event serves as a context for examining broader changes in the fashion industry over the years, from the rise of celebrity influence on fashion to the evolving role of designers in shaping public imagery.

As the Met Gala continues to influence fashion dialogue and trends, the legacy of Princess Diana's fashion choices, particularly her renowned 1996 appearance, remains a focal point of discussion among enthusiasts and historians alike.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

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