

# grace

PRINCESS OF MONACO  
A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GRACE KELLY

*Press Contacts at End of Release*

SIX OF AMERICA'S LEADING DESIGNERS CREATE ONE-OF-A-KIND GOWNS INSPIRED BY GRACE, PRINCESS OF MONACO TO CELEBRATE HER ICONIC STYLE AND LEGACY TO THE WORLD OF FASHION

DRESSES TO BE DISPLAYED AT SAKS FIFTH AVENUE AND AUCTIONED TO BENEFIT THE PRINCESS GRACE FOUNDATION-USA

WINNING BIDS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT CASINO COUTURE EVENT AT SOTHEBY'S CO-HOSTED BY STEVE & ELAINE WYNN



*Grace Kelly (1956)*

*Photograph courtesy of The Kobal Collection/MGM/Clarence Sinclair Bull*

**NEW YORK, New York** (September 20, 2007) – Six gowns of historic note worn by Grace Kelly/Princess Grace of Monaco will serve as inspiration to some of America's best known fashion designers as they create one-of-a-kind *haute couture* to celebrate the classic style of the American-born Princess in the 25th year since her passing. The designs will be exhibited at Saks Fifth Avenue's New York City flagship store during October's *Celebration of Grace* and each will be up-for-bid to the public in a silent auction with final bidding at the *Casino Couture* event at Sotheby's on October 24.

During **October 21 - 26, 2007**, couture creations by **Oscar de la Renta, Carolina Herrera, Ralph Lauren, Zac Posen, Ralph Rucci** and **Vera Wang** will be displayed in the windows of Saks Fifth Avenue and their sale will benefit the **Princess Grace Foundation-USA** which assists emerging talent in theater, dance, and film by awarding scholarships, apprenticeships and fellowships.

[www.saks.com](http://www.saks.com)

[www.aCelebrationofGrace.com](http://www.aCelebrationofGrace.com)

[www.wynnlasvegas.com](http://www.wynnlasvegas.com)

Taking their inspiration from dresses based on designs by Academy Award-winning costume designers Helen Rose (MGM) and Edith Head (Paramount) and the famous French couturiers Madame Grès and Christian Dior, these six renowned American designers will add their own special magic to create unique outfits celebrating the fashion legacy of one of the world's most beautiful women. The dresses include the satin gown worn by Grace Kelly to the 1955 Academy Awards the night she won the Best Actress Oscar® as well as costumes from her movies *To Catch A Thief*, *High Society* and *Rear Window* and gowns she wore on official state occasions as Princess Grace of Monaco.

"As Grace Kelly the actress, she gave us some of the most glamorous and stylish moments in cinematic history and as Princess of Monaco she was equally elegant and inspiring. We invite the public to view these exceptional creations at Saks as part of New York's *homage* to her considerable legacy to fashion," said **Hon. Maguy Maccario Doyle**, Consul General of Monaco in New York.

"Hers was an understated elegance mainly because her style was a reflection of her own personality. She was genuinely lovely inside and out. Her dancer's physique and stance – inherited from her mother – meant her composure was poised and self-assured without being over-confident. She made being stylish look easy by combining classic design with the perfect accessories," said Maccario Doyle.

**Michael Fink**, Vice President and Fashion Director (Women's) at Saks Fifth Avenue and project coordinator has fulsome praise for her style. "Grace Kelly had an undeniable influence on fashion and she unarguably continues to be an important fashion icon of our time. This is best illustrated in her ability to make fashion timeless."

Editor in chief of *Town & Country* magazine, **Pamela Fiori**, who is producing a special collector's edition to coincide with New York's *Celebration of Grace* events, was given unprecedented access to interview family and friends of the Princess for the November tribute issue which will also feature rare photographs. "As an actress, Grace Kelly illuminated the screen with her natural elegance. As Princess Grace of Monaco, she assumed an even greater role, in which she demonstrated great dignity and serenity. Her bearing was regal, even before becoming a princess. Her innate sense of style served her well and has lifted her to iconic status. She was an original."

The final bidding for the six outfits will take place at the *Casino Couture* event to be held under the patronage of **HSH Prince Albert II** and jointly hosted by **Steve and Elaine Wynn** and the Consulate General of Monaco in New York with the Monaco Government Tourist Office and the Société des Bains de Mer Hotels, Spas & Casinos on October 24 at Sotheby's. (Tickets are \$450. For details, please contact [Casino@VisitMonaco.com](mailto:Casino@VisitMonaco.com) or visit [www.aCelebrationofGrace.com](http://www.aCelebrationofGrace.com)).

Billed as a glamorous evening of high stakes and high fashion, Sotheby's will be transformed into the *Wynn Gaming Salon* for a star-studded night of American and European gaming to benefit the Princess Grace Foundation-USA.

"We are honored to have been asked by the Principality to participate in this *Celebration of Grace* tribute. The *Casino Couture* event brings together many of the companies and organizations that we have enjoyed partnering with in the past. It is especially meaningful to us because the beneficiary is the Princess Grace Foundation, a cause so important to the Princely Family of Monaco and aspiring artists in the performing arts," said Elaine Wynn.

"The elements of glamour added to the event by Saks Fifth Avenue, Van Cleef & Arpels and of course, the American designers who are creating fashions for the auction, will make this a most memorable social occasion. With the Consulate General of Monaco and the Société des Bains de Mer as co-hosts and the Sotheby's venue, the environment promises to be an elegant setting for a *salon privé*. We're excited to provide a bit of the 'Monte Carlo' allure and appreciate the invitation to do so."

### **THE DESIGNERS AND THEIR DESIGNS**

Note: A thumbnail of each of the original and "inspiration" dresses may be found at the end of this release. Each outfit will be made in US size 8 but with seam allowances to increase to US size 10.

**OSCAR DE LA RENTA** will be inspired by the Helen Rose-designed *High Society* ball gown.

**Description:** A layered gray-over-rose chiffon gown appliquéd with rhinestones and pink and white embroidered flowers, it is the signature costume from the 1956 musical comedy *High Society* co-starring Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra.

#### **Background notes:**

- The original gown worn by Grace Kelly in the movie will be auctioned during the 25th Annual Princess Grace Awards Gala on October 25 at Sotheby's to benefit the Princess Grace Foundation-USA.
- In the book, *Grace Kelly – Icon of Style to Royal Bride* (2006), Kristina Haugland, curator of textiles at Philadelphia's Museum of Art, says film costumes were often reused, occasionally purchased by or given to actresses and MGM gave Miss Kelly all her *High Society* costumes. *High Society* was Grace Kelly's last movie.
- Helen Rose was MGM's chief costume designer and was responsible for creating Princess Grace's wedding dress, her civil wedding suit and her costumes for *Mogambo*, *Green Fire* and *The Swan*.

**CAROLINA HERRERA** will take her inspiration from the striking black and white ensemble from *Rear Window*.

**Description:** Featuring a low v-neck and short-sleeved bodice paired with a full and layered white skirt with an embroidered pattern branching out from the waist line. The original ensemble was belted and accessorized with a sheer white wrap and elegant long white gloves.

#### **Background notes:**

- Created by the famous Academy Award-winning studio costumier, Edith Head, this feminine outfit was made for the 1954 Hitchcock thriller, *Rear Window* co-starring Jimmy Stewart.
- Edith Head was Paramount's chief costume designer and was responsible for Grace Kelly's wardrobe in *Rear Window*, *To Catch a Thief*, *The Bridges at Toko-Ri* and *The Country Girl*.
- On loan for the exhibition is the original "Mark Cross overnight case" that Grace Kelly uses in this film.

**RALPH LAUREN** "re-imagines" the iconic blue dress from *To Catch A Thief*.

**Description:** A flowing ice-blue chiffon gown with sheer 'wrap' draped from the right shoulder.

#### **Background notes:**

- The dress was worn in the 1954 classic directed by Alfred Hitchcock co-starring Cary Grant.
- *To Catch a Thief* was filmed in and around the Principality of Monaco and the South of France.
- Edith Head was Paramount's chief costume designer, responsible for Grace Kelly's outfits in *Rear Window*, *To Catch a Thief*, *The Bridges at Toko-Ri* and *The Country Girl*.

**ZAC POSEN**'s adaptation is styled upon the dress Grace Kelly wore the night she won her Oscar®

**Description:** An aquamarine satin sheath (or column) dress with matching cloak by Edith Head.

### **Background notes:**

- She wore the dress on March 30, 1955, to the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards when she won the Best Actress Oscar® for her role in *The Country Girl*. (It will be a highlight - along with her Oscar® statuette - at the *Grace, Princess of Monaco* exhibition at Sotheby's in October.
- It was also worn on December 15, 1954 at the New York City premiere of *The Country Girl*, a film by George Seaton co-starring William Holden and Bing Crosby.
- Grace Kelly was photographed in the dress by Philippe Halsman for *Life* (April 11, 1955).

**RALPH RUCCI's** design takes shape from a French original.

**Description:** One of the most regal of all the official portraits of the Princess of Monaco features her robed in a flowing Madame Grès design. Commissioned in 1976, the stunning red velvet dress boasts unusual front straps and half-sleeves.

### **Background notes:**

- The Princess wore the dress in a 1977 official portrait painting by Ricardo Macaron. She is a vision of serenity in the painting that now hangs in the Palace in Monaco.
- She accessorized the rich velvet gown with a diamond and sapphire brooch by Van Cleef & Arpels.
- Princess Grace also wore this gown to the International Monte-Carlo Television Festival Awards Gala in 1976.
- Mr. Rucci said: "Her Serene Highness Princess Grace of Monaco had the most quiet, bewitching style. She was able to take a couturier's vision and re-interpret it as her own. She did this with the power of two elements rare in this world today: poise and grace. We need to learn from this."

**VERA WANG** will add her own special magic to an original 1970 design from Christian Dior.

**Description:** An elegant long white silk jersey gown with round neck and long swan feathers at the cuffs and hem.

### **Background notes:**

- She wore this "feather" dress to the Royal Festival Hall in London on November 16, 1970 where she introduced Frank Sinatra and Bob Hope at the *Night of Nights* Gala to benefit the United World Colleges. Founded during the Cold War, the UWC movement promoted understanding between nations through education.

## **BIDDING FOR THE DRESSES**

The public will have the opportunity to purchase these outfits via a silent auction. Each dress will have a minimum bid of \$US2000 (with increments of \$500). Bidding will be by phone during the *Casino Couture* event or bidders can submit an absentee bid form with their maximum offer. All proceeds benefit the Princess Grace Awards, a registered 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. The absentee bid forms will be available online at [www.aCelebrationofGrace.com](http://www.aCelebrationofGrace.com) in October. The completed forms must be received at the Monaco Government Tourist Office (via mail or fax) no later than 5pm EST on October 23, 2007 in order to be eligible.

## **RELATED SAKS FIFTH AVENUE ACTIVITIES**

To further cement the New York-Monaco alliance this October at Saks, the Principality's red-and-white flag will fly high above Fifth Avenue, as renowned *chef de cuisine* Sylvain Etiévant of the Hôtel de Paris' *Le Grill* collaborates with Saks Executive Chef Jean-Louis Dumonet to present signature Monégasque lunch menus at each of the restaurants at Saks on the 2nd, 5th and 8th floors. Beginning October 15, Estée Lauder will offer a special limited edition shade of lipstick called *Princess Grace Coral* in honor of the Princess. The lipstick will be sold exclusively at the Saks Fifth Avenue flagship store in New York and will also be available online at [www.saks.com](http://www.saks.com) and [www.esteelauder.com](http://www.esteelauder.com).

## RELATED TRIBUTE EVENTS

### ***Grace, Princess of Monaco* Exhibition at Sotheby's**

During October 15 - 26, the Consulate General of Monaco and the Monaco Government Tourist Office in New York with Sotheby's, in collaboration with the Princely Palace of Monaco, the Princess Grace Foundation-USA with Estée Lauder, Manhattan House and Van Cleef & Arpels, will present a tribute exhibition celebrating the life and legacy of Princess Grace. *Grace, Princess of Monaco: A Tribute to the Life and Legacy of Grace Kelly* will be open daily to the public and free of charge at Sotheby's New York.

**HSH Prince Albert II** said, "In celebrating her life in the land of her birth, this exhibition also salutes her significant humanitarian and philanthropic legacy. She was an ardent supporter of many worthwhile causes throughout her lifetime especially those involving the welfare of children. She embraced the idea of encouraging aspiring artists in the fields of dance, film, theatre and the arts - having traveled that road herself."

The exhibition will feature a selection of gowns, jewelry and accessories portraying her signature style and marking important events in her life; also on view will be photographs, letters, home movies, newsreel footage and other unique items, many of which have never been seen outside of Monaco. Among them will be the dress she wore to the 1955 Academy Awards when she won the best actress Oscar® for her role in *The Country Girl* and a gown from *High Society*.

A bound 140+ page, limited edition exhibition catalog will be available at Sotheby's or on-line from [www.sothebys.com](http://www.sothebys.com) with a recommended retail price of \$US45.00.

### **The 25th Anniversary Princess Grace Awards Gala**

On October 25, 2007, the Princess Grace Foundation–USA, which celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, will host the annual Princess Grace Awards Gala at Sotheby's where awards will be presented to emerging artists in theater, dance and film. First instituted in 1984, these awards are named in honor of Princess Grace who helped aspiring artists pursue their goals throughout her lifetime. To date, the Foundation has awarded more than \$5 million to support and continue excellence in the arts. This year's Awards will take place in the presence of **HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco** and **TRH The Prince and Princess of Hanover** and will honor Star Wars creator, **George Lucas** with the **Prince Rainier Lifetime Achievement Award**. A live auction of two dresses worn by Princess Grace - personally selected by Prince Albert and Princess Caroline - will be conducted by long-time family friend, **James G. Niven** to benefit the Awards. The dresses are a green sleeveless Givenchy design with matching fringed bolero jacket worn in 1961 on an official visit with Prince Rainier to a White House lunch with President and Mrs. Kennedy; and the ball gown created by Helen Rose for the 1956 musical comedy, *High Society*. Major sponsors for the Gala are Estée Lauder Inc, Manhattan House, Lily Safra and Van Cleef & Arpels. Individual gala tickets start at \$1,000 and tables start at \$15,000. To purchase tickets, please call (845) 591 2392 or email [maryfioreevents@verizon.net](mailto:maryfioreevents@verizon.net) or visit [www.pgfusa.org](http://www.pgfusa.org).

### ***Making Music in Monaco on WQXR (96.3 FM)***

During October 15 - 26, a special edition of *Making Music in Monaco* will feature interviews with Princess Grace's friends, music by her favorite musicians and a selection of her poetry readings. Now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, this radio program presents the very best sounds of the Principality from musicians with ties, past or present, to Monaco.

### ***Town & Country Magazine***

*Town & Country*, the longest continuously published lifestyle magazine in America, will feature a special tribute in its November issue including rare photographs of Princess Grace of Monaco.

### **Oliver Goldsmith's *Grace* Sunglasses**

Oliver Goldsmith Sunglasses®, the iconic British eyewear brand is re-creating a limited number of their 'Grace' frames. Originally designed by Oliver Goldsmith in 1958 for Princess Grace of Monaco, only 25 hand-crafted-to-order frames will be available exclusively during *A Celebration of Grace* events with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Princess Grace Foundation-USA. [www.olivergoldsmith.com](http://www.olivergoldsmith.com)

**About the Consulate General of Monaco and the Monaco Government Tourist Office:** The only fully accredited Consulate General of Monaco in North America, the New York office provides consular services, cultural, commercial and general information. The Consulate also organizes exclusive promotional and philanthropic events and activities to benefit numerous charitable endeavors, many under the patronage of the Princely Family. The Monaco Government Tourist Office offers personalized tourism advice and information for individuals, group and business travel to the Principality as well as access to MonacoAuction.com and Le Club Diamant Rouge – VIP travel membership within Monaco. Please visit [www.Monaco-Consulate.com](http://www.Monaco-Consulate.com) and [www.VisitMonaco.com](http://www.VisitMonaco.com).

**About Saks Fifth Avenue:** Saks Fifth Avenue, one of the world's pre-eminent specialty retailers, is renowned for its superlative American and international designer collections, its expertly edited assortment of handbags, shoes, jewelry, cosmetics and home furnishings, and the first-rate fashion expertise and the exemplary client service of its Associates. Today, Saks operates 54 full-line stores in 25 states, 2 licensed stores in the Middle East in Dubai and Riyadh, 50 OFF 5th Outlet Stores and [www.saks.com](http://www.saks.com) the company's online store.

**About Société des Bains de Mer Hotels, Spas & Casinos:** Société des Bains de Mer owns and operates five hotels in Monaco, notably the world-renowned Hôtel Hermitage and Hôtel de Paris; 30 restaurants, several featuring Michelin-rated chefs; the Monte-Carlo Opera House, Casino de Monte-Carlo, Sporting Monte-Carlo, Jimmy'z and other celebrated cultural, nightlife and gaming venues as well as Les Thermes Marins de Monte-Carlo and the Principality's premier sporting and leisure clubs. For information and reservations, call 800-595-0898 or visit [www.montecarloresort.com](http://www.montecarloresort.com).

### **About Sotheby's:**

Sotheby's is a global company that engages in art auction, private sales, dealer and art-related financing activities. The Company operates in 35 countries, with principal salesrooms located in New York and London. The Company also regularly conducts auctions in 13 other salesrooms around the world, including Australia, Hong Kong, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Singapore. Sotheby's is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol BID. For more information, go to [www.sothebys.com](http://www.sothebys.com).

**About Van Cleef & Arpels:**

Founded in 1906 by Alfred Van Cleef and his brothers-in-law Charles and Julien Arpels on the Place Vendôme in Paris, Van Cleef & Arpels has distinguished itself as one for the world's finest jewelers. Renowned worldwide for unparalleled craftsmanship, design, creativity and exceptional stones, each timeless original creation is streamlined for the modern woman who truly understands superior fine jewelry. Creativity, quality and craftsmanship has led Van Cleef & Arpels to open boutiques in the most affluent cities, seaside and resort towns throughout the world and is known for adorning royalty, Hollywood legends and others with discriminating taste.

**About Wynn Las Vegas:**

Wynn Resorts, Limited is traded on the NASDAQ National Market under the ticker symbol WYNN and is part of the NASDAQ-100 Index. On September 6, 2006, Wynn Macau, a destination casino resort in the Macau Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, opened featuring 600 deluxe hotel rooms and suites, approx. 220 table games and 380 slot machines in approx. 100,000 sq. ft. of casino gaming space, seven restaurants, approx. 26,000 sq. ft. of retail space, a spa, a salon, entertainment lounges and meeting facilities. Additionally, the company owns and operates Wynn Las Vegas ([www.wynnlasvegas.com](http://www.wynnlasvegas.com)), a luxury hotel and destination casino resort located on the Las Vegas Strip which opened to the public on April 28, 2005. Wynn Las Vegas features 2,716 luxurious guest rooms and suites; approx. 111,000 sq. ft. casino; 22 food and beverage outlets; an on-site 18-hole golf course; approx. 223,000 sq. ft. of meeting space; an on-site Ferrari and Maserati dealership; and approx. 76,000 sq. ft. of retail space.

The Consulate General of Monaco in New York and the Monaco Government Tourist Office wish to thank our generous sponsors, partners and those who have made invaluable contributions towards our exhibition and related tribute events:

**Casino Couture Event:**

Saks Fifth Avenue, Société des Bains de Mer Hotels, Spas & Casinos, Sotheby's, Wynn Resorts, and Van Cleef & Arpels.

**Exhibition:**

Estée Lauder Inc, Manhattan House, Princely Palace of Monaco, Princess Grace Irish Library, Société des Bains de Mer Hotels, Spas & Casinos, Sotheby's, *Town & Country* Magazine and Van Cleef & Arpels

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**Note to editors:**

A selection of images (*High Society*, *To Catch A Thief*, *Rear Window* & the "Oscar" dress) from **The Kobal Collection** may be used free of charge only (1) when used in conjunction with the exhibition and related tribute events; (2) when noted as courtesy of **The Kobal Collection** and (3) when including the appropriate credit line that accompanies each image. These conditions of use also apply to the Madame Grès portrait image and the Christian Dior "feather" dress image which are courtesy of **The Princely Palace Monaco**.

For **The Kobal Collection** images in hi-res, contact: Peter Rohowsky: [peter@picture-desk.com](mailto:peter@picture-desk.com) or Jamie Vuignier: [jamie@picture-desk.com](mailto:jamie@picture-desk.com). For the Madame Grès portrait and the Dior "feather dress" images, please contact Elle Berdy: [e.berdy@monaco-consulate.com](mailto:e.berdy@monaco-consulate.com).

From *High Society*  
Credit: *Courtesy MGM/The Kobal Collection/Eric Carpenter*



From *Rear Window* (L) and from *To Catch A Thief*  
Credit for both images: *Courtesy Paramount/The Kobal Collection/Bud Fraker*



The 1955 Academy Awards  
Credit: *Courtesy of The Kobal Collection*



Mme. Grès dress in 1977 portrait (L) and Christian Dior "feather" dress  
Credit for both images: *Courtesy of the Princely Palace of Monaco*

