

# ARTCURIAL

Press release



## *A sale of unseen creations from the personal collection of Kenzo Takada*

Collection Kenzo Takada  
Sale from 3 to 12 Mai 2021, Online

The Fashion & Luxury Accessories department at Artcurial will hold an exceptional Online Only sale on 3 to 12 May dedicated to unseen, original creations by Kenzo Takada. Presented in conjunction with the auction on 11 May featuring furniture from the fashion designer's apartment, this sale of 150 items includes kimonos, boleros, coats, dresses and shirts. It is a unique opportunity to discover the creative process of Kenzo Takada.

PARIS – Following the sales of the Jeanne Moreau Collection and the Martin Margiela Collection, the Fashion & Luxury Accessories department at Artcurial will hold an auction on 3 to 12 May featuring items of clothing designed by Kenzo Takada. This new Online Only fashion sale will take place in conjunction with the auction of furniture from the designer's apartment to be held on 11 May.

Featuring some 150 items offered in 132 lots, the collection includes kimonos, coats, boleros, skirts, trousers, shorts, tops and shirts designed for every season.

These items, in a range of fine fabrics such as velvet, satin, cashmere, jacquard and taffeta, were never marketed. They were all created by Kenzo Takada between 2005 and 2008 as part of a new project for the brand called "Takada".

With estimates ranging from 30 € to 600 €, these are all unique pieces, featuring both completed items and unfinished prototypes, some accompanied by their design sketches. There will also be a selection of full outfits offered in the sale. Artcurial has recreated these from the lookbooks made by Kenzo himself, presenting a wonderful opportunity for collectors to discover the designer's creative process.

*« Kenzo Takada's creations have always incorporated a subtle mix of East and West, modern and traditional. His is an instantly recognisable style, with colourful and floral printed designs and kimono cuts that won the designer international recognition. We are extremely honoured to be presenting for sale these exclusive items that have never been seen in public before. »*

Clara Vivien  
Fashion specialist, Artcurial



Kenzo Takada, archives © DR



Kenzo Takada, archives © DR



TAKADA (Fall-winter 2007/08)  
Coat in duchess satin with floral motif on red background, matching scarf.  
Estimate: €300 - 500

TAKADA (Fall-winter 2007/08)  
Bolero « Opéra » in caviar jacquard.  
Estimate: €150 - 250

Kenzo Takada, archives @ DR



## *The creative process of Kenzo Takada*

The auction includes a selection of autumn-winter pieces, with more than ten kimonos, over a dozen coats, seventeen jackets, six trench coats and ten boleros. Amongst the spring-summer wear will be more than forty dresses and twenty tops.

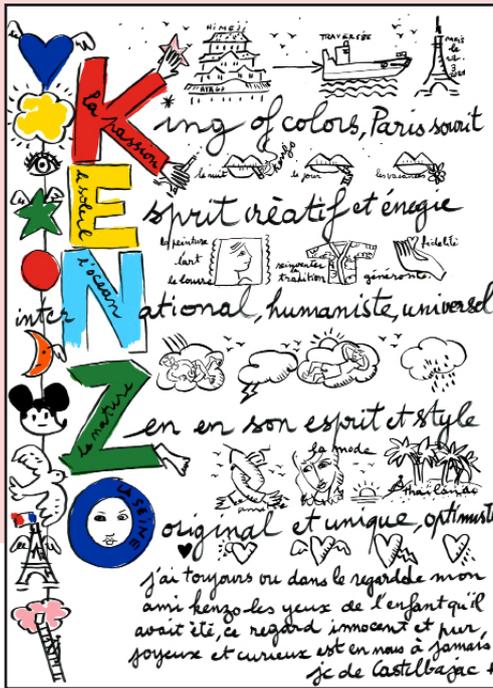
Around twenty full outfits will also come under the hammer. Amongst them, the « Super 100 gris » wool look from the Autumn-Winter 2007-2008 collection, featuring a knotted jacket, bustier, skirt and ivory silk blouse. This ensemble is estimated at 180 - 280 €.

Coming from the sale collection, a duchess satin coat with a floral motif on a red background with matching scarf will be offered at 300 to 500 €.

There is also an outfit in embroidered ivory silk, comprising a jacket, bustier, skirt, over-skirt and purse, estimated at 600-800€.

For the summer season, there are several dresses on offer, such as an organza dress with embroidered polka dots, estimate 80 – 120 €, and a floral-patterned silk dress in shades of yellow, also estimated at 80 – 120 €.

The last five lots in the sale include paper patterns for male fashion items, estimated between 60 and 200 €



© Jean-Charles de Castelbaljac



Design by Jean-Charles de Castelbaljac for the Kenzo Takada sale catalogue at Artcurial.

TAKADA (Fall-winter 2007/08) Evening coat in silk taffeta that changes from red to orange, with belt; Estimate: €300 - 500



## Kenzo Takada (1939–2020)

Kenzo Takada was the first Japanese designer to achieve success in the Paris fashion world. Born on 27 February 1939 in Himeji, Japan, Kenzo was interested in fashion from a very young age. He defied his parents' wishes, and instead of studying literature, he enrolled at Tokyo's renowned Bunka Fashion College, where he was one of the first male students to be admitted to the fashion and textiles course. To further his learning, he then decided to leave Japan and follow his dream in the international capital of the fashion world, arriving in Paris on 1 January 1965.

In 1970, he held his first fashion show and opened his first boutique in rue Vivienne in Le Marais, which he called Jungle Jap. A visionary designer, Kenzo's collections met with huge and immediate success. During the first twelve months of his business, he presented not two but four collections in a single year. He was also one of the first to adopt the concept of prêt-à-porter. In 1993, the Kenzo brand was acquired by LVMH, and he stepped down in 1999, leaving his design team in charge.

In 2015, Kenzo Takada was made a Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur, and he died five years later on 4 October 2020, in Paris.

## Kenzo Takada & Paris

«Every wall, every corner of the sky, every passer-by in the city provides inspiration for me when designing my collections» said Kenzo Takada of Paris.

Kenzo moved to Paris to refine his talent and learn from the masters, with the idea of eventually going back to Japan. Having fallen in love with the city of lights, where he felt at home and with a desire to «create something», he ended up staying for over 50 years.

We will remember Kenzo Takada for his visionary and pioneering spirit, for his unique, floral style inspired by a multitude of sources, that drew from his Japanese roots but remained open to the French style of living and luxury. A brilliant spirit that shook up the world of haute couture in Paris in the 1970s, with a lasting impact on the history of fashion.

## USEFUL INFORMATION

Public Viewing:  
From Monday 3 to Monday 10 May 2021  
Sale:  
From Monday 3 to Wednesday 12 May, online  
only

7 Rond-Point  
des Champs-Élysées  
75008 Paris

sale in collaboration with

CHRISTIE'S

## PRESS MATERIAL

High Resolution images available on  
request

The full catalogue can be viewed  
on [artcurial.com](http://artcurial.com)

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### *About Artcurial*

Founded in 2002, multidisciplinary Paris based auction house, Artcurial confirmed its leading position in 2019 on the international art market scene. With three sale venues (Paris, Monte-Carlo and Hong Kong), Artcurial achieved an overall sales total of 203,1 M€ in 2019. Artcurial covers all the major specialist fields: From Beaux-Arts to Decorative Arts, Collectors' Cars, jewellery and watches, Fine wine and spirits.

With a strong international bias, Artcurial maintains its presence abroad with offices in Milan, Vienna and Brussels, Monte-Carlo and Munich and representatives in Beijing and Tel Aviv, as well as twice-yearly exhibitions in New York. In October 2015, Artcurial held its first sale in Hong Kong and Morocco.

[artcurial.com](http://artcurial.com)

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