

Lifestyle | Feature

Friday, December 11, 2020



A picture shows a Bao Bao Issey Miyake Lucent Metallic tote bag.



A visitor uses a phone to take a selfie with bags bearing slogans exhibited in a case behind during a press preview.



A picture shows a 'Lady Dior' handbag by designer Christian Dior.



A picture shows an 18th century French painted marriage purse.

"Instagrammable"

On video, Chinese influencer Tao Liang, known as Mr Bags, talks about the designs he has collaborated on with top luxury brands such as Burberry and Chanel. All of them are "very instagrammable," he says. "Who doesn't want a picture of themselves with a nice bag?" says the fashion blogger who claims to have 5 million followers on China's Weibo. Sometimes a bag can carry a political message, however, such as the bag bearing the slogan "My Body My Business," created by US-Swedish artist Michele Pred.

A final section of the exhibition examines the techniques used to make bags, including quirkier designs such as the US designers Thom Brown's handbag from last year in the shape of a dachshund,

inspired by his dog Hector. As fast fashion falls out of favor, designers are looking at new technologies and recycling to reduce environmental impact. A pioneer in this area, Stella McCartney, used plastic waste taken from the sea to make a rucksack on display.

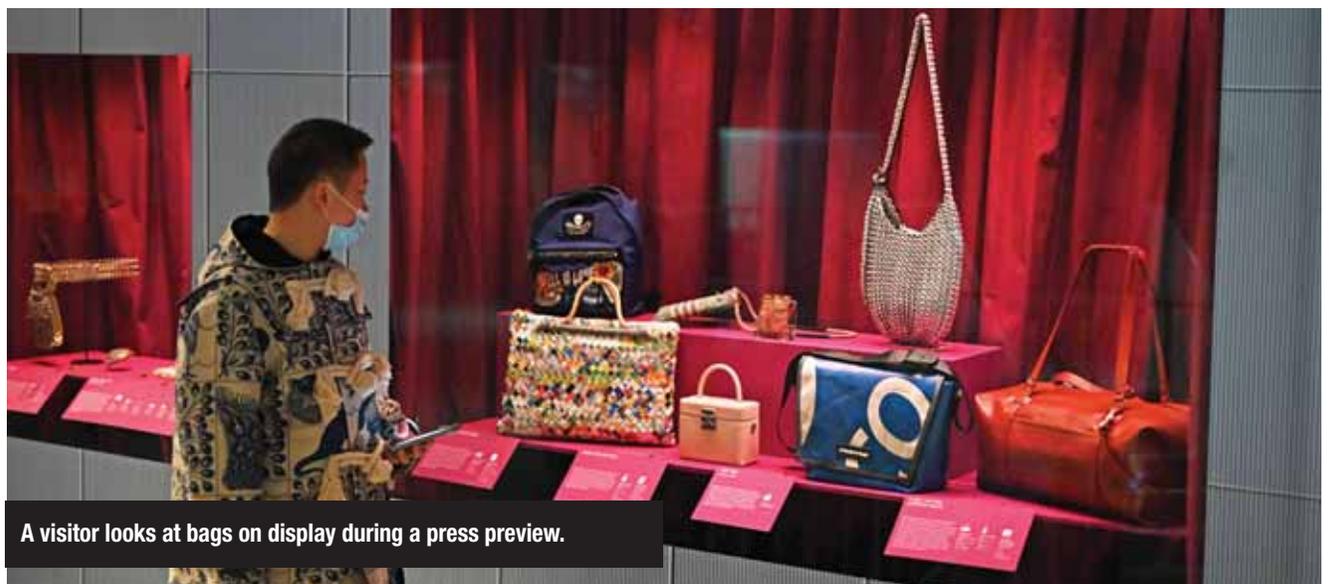
The contents of a handbag remain sacrosanct, especially in the case of Queen Elizabeth II, who has remained loyal to the conservative Laundry brand and has several of its bags. Visitors to the show can see one from her collection, known as the Traviata, but the contents remain firmly off bounds. — AFP



A picture shows the ministerial despatch box that belonged to Winston Churchill when he was Secretary of State for the Colonies 1921-22.



A picture shows a 'Calavera' skull clutch bag by Charlotte Olympia.



A visitor looks at bags on display during a press preview.