The Power of the Veil

Kayla Pantano (October 20, 2016)



On Thursday evening, as part of Italian Language Week, a group of distinguished panelists will offer their perspectives on Italian bridal couture.

Every October, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation [2] organizes a series of

events that promotes Italian as a great language of classical and contemporary culture. The theme of the <u>16th Week of the Italian Language in the World</u> [3] (Oct. 17—23) is "L'Italiano e la creatività: moda e design" ("Italian and creativity: fashion and design").

As part of this program, the <u>Embassy of Italy</u> [4] and the <u>Italian Cultural Institute</u> [5] in Washington, D.C. are hosting a conference and fashion exhibition dedicated to the wedding veil as the primary driver of the bridal dressing experience. The exhibit, <u>Italian Fashion Couture Bridal Tradition and the Power of the Veil</u> [5], will be on display until October 24. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

The veil dates back to ancient Rome and has come to best exemplify "bridal" around the globe. Steeped in tradition yet eternally timeless, it represents a wonderful window onto the world of Italian design and couture manufacturing.

With the participation of Enrica Ponzellini [6], editor of Vogue Sposa [7], and Max Botticelli [8], haute couture fashion photographer, in dialogue with Alison Miller [9], creative director of Monvieve [10], the selected panelists will provide their unique perspectives on bridal couture and accessories through the lens of history, culture, tradition, and the industry today.

They will discuss the true meaning of Made in Italy focused around this singular product, as well as utilize photography and video to illustrate the manner in which the veil has influenced wedding fashion and how it transcends its historic symbolism. The exhibit will provide examples of bespoke heirloom veils that demonstrate what is possible under the tutelage of Italian tradition and design.

Through these engaging formats, the audience will better understand the veil's significance and recognize its sublime beauty. Furthermore, they will appreciate the experience and craftsmanship of Italian high fashion.

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