



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 4, 2015

**Yves Saint Laurent + Halston: Fashioning the 70's**

An Exhibition for the Museum at FIT

Feb 6, 2015 – April 18, 2015

Exhibition design by Ackert Architecture

***Yves Saint Laurent + Halston: Fashioning the '70s*** celebrates the two designers who defined the sexy and glamorous fashions of the 1970s. This is the first exhibition to juxtapose their work and analyze the way they dealt with similar themes and aesthetics during the height of their careers. Both designers are equally represented by the approximately 80 ensembles and 20 accessories that are arranged thematically in an environment designed to evoke the style of this singular, dynamic era in history.

Drawn exclusively from the holdings of The Museum at FIT, the exhibition offers a unique perspective on two of the best-known fashion designers in modern history. The museum's collections hold the Halston archives—the most comprehensive records of his work in the world—as well as a vast array of significant Yves Saint Laurent pieces donated by important clients, fashion editors, friends, and colleagues of Saint Laurent

Ackert Architecture's design for the exhibit features three - 20' x 20' steel framed platforms set within a completely white space. The multi-tiered and complex platforms weave together both circular and square geometries defined by curved metal mesh curtains and clear plexiglass panels to express both the elegant minimalism of Halston and the dynamic exoticism of Yves Saint Laurent.

In addition to the unique clothing collection, the exhibition design was inspired by a graphic design pattern from the 70's of interlocking circles that ultimately served as a framework for the platform configuration. The "white box" infinity concept for the gallery space creates a neutral ground to analyze and juxtapose the work of these two celebrated designers.

This is the third exhibition Ackert Architecture has designed for the Museum at FIT. Speaking on the project, Principal Kimberly Ackert said "It has been a great collaboration with the curators and production team at FIT. While we are working in the same galleries, each show has a specific curatorial vision that presents a unique opportunity for design expression."

*Yves Saint Laurent + Halston: Fashioning the 70s* was organized by Patricia Mears, deputy director of MFIT, and Emma McClendon, assistant curator of MFIT, with Fred Dennis, senior curator of MFIT.



ACKERT ARCHITECTURE, PC

**About Ackert Architecture:**

Founded by Kimberly Ackert in 2000, Ackert Architecture specializes in residential and commercial architecture using principals of natural daylighting and sustainability. Adjunct Professor at the New School since 2003 Ackert has taught courses on Natural Systems and led design studios at Harvard, Yale and Cornell University. Prior to founding her own firm, Ackert worked at Richard Meier & Partners and Skidmore Owings and Merrill. A fellow of the American Academy in Rome she is a graduate of the California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo.



