

Diamonds And Heels

DESIGNER ACCESSORIES PAY TRIBUTE TO MARILYN MONROE

BY FIONA BRUTSCHER | JULY 30TH 2012 | 10:29 AM

Which accessories epitomise Marilyn Monroe? Judging by the fashionable tributes commemorating the 50th anniversary of the late Hollywood star's untimely death, nothing says 'Marilyn' like a diamond necklace and a pair of red heels.



Although the actual anniversary will be marked on August 5th, 2012, there have already been numerous projects dedicated to the pop culture icon in the months leading up to that date. The intimate film *My Week with Marilyn* was released late last year in time for awards season, even more books than usual have been published on the ever-popular subject, and several exhibitions have opened, notably 'Marilyn' at Museo Salvatore Ferragamo in Florence and 'Marilyn Monroe: Tribute to a Female Icon' at Galleria Ca'd' Oro in Rome and Miami.

If you admire Marilyn Monroe's style and her glamorous fashion, several commemorative designs now let you buy a piece of the Monroe look – and help carry on her legacy by emulating it.

DIAMONDS FOR MARILYN

Surely, no one who has seen *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* can say 'Marilyn' without thinking 'Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend'. On the opening day of this year's Cannes Film Festival, **Chopard** presented a fitting tribute to the film legend in the shape of the Magnificent Marilyn Diamond set. Reminiscent of the necklace worn by Monroe in the film scene where her pink-clad on-screen character waxes lyrical about the advantages of the sparkling stones, the collier and its matching earrings are a sparkling tribute to a glamorous diva.



STAR-QUALITY SHOES

Marilyn Monroe loved a good heel, and her sexy hip-swaying walk is partly attributed to the stilettos she frequently wore. Her known passion for quality and attractive footwear was reason enough for **Fratelli Rossetti** to dedicate a limited edition version of their 'Lady Brera' shoe, made of red crocodile leather, to Marilyn Monroe. The model was introduced on the occasion of the opening of an exhibition titled 'Tribute to Marilyn', which has been touring Europe. However, Fratelli Rossetti can't lay claim to ever having produced shoes worn by Marilyn Monroe, as the brand wasn't even making women's shoes in the star's lifetime.



Salvatore Ferragamo, on the other hand, is often described as her favourite shoemaker, and Monroe is rumoured to have owned 40 pairs of the Florence-based designer's shoes. The red Swarovski crystal heels custom made for her in the 1950s are part of the **Museo Salvatore Ferragamo's** collection and currently on display as part of a special exhibition. However, you can also have your very own pair to take home, as replicas of this model (pictured at top) are available exclusively in the Ferragamo's Collections boutique adjacent to the museum.