

Basic Detail Report

Designer Valentino and actress Elizabeth

Taylor embrace at a party

Date

1969-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Valentino Garavani, best known as Valentino, is an Italian fashion designer and founder of the Valentino SpA brand and company. Dame Elizabeth Taylor, was a British-American actress, businesswoman and humanitarian. She began as a child actress in the early 1940s, and was one of the most popular stars of classical Hollywood cinema in the 1950s. She continued her career successfully into the 1960s, and remained a well-known public figure for the rest of her life. “Pour yourself a drink, put on some lipstick and pull yourself together.” Those are the indelible words of Elizabeth Taylor, Hollywood legend nonpareil. From the early 1960s on, Taylor’s way of “pulling herself together” very often meant putting on some Valentino. At his recent talk at the 92Y in New York, Mr. Valentino recalled how he met the incomparable Liz. “She was in Rome for one year to shoot Cleopatra,” he told interviewer Fern Mallis. “She asked—I don’t know which person, I don’t remember-- ‘you have a new designer that just opened a fashion house called Valentino. I’d love to see his clothes.’ ” That was the start of a lifelong friendship.

Dimensions

Overall: 30.2 x 20.1 cm (11 7/8 x 7 7/8 in.)