Though women have ceased to be surprised by the creations of Christian what might be called Dior - his new London collection has started controversy at "long-velve" length" - even if this baack cocktail dress and jacket are...almost in classic mould.

Try winter mid-season collection (so naturally party gowns are well pepresented). This new offering features the "Magnet" line - with many skirts of ankle length.

A strapless cocktail dress in the new shade of rose red - with a matching long-sleeve jacket.

gown is further enricked by a white satin sash.

mauve velvet evening gown with a lilac sash, ALLYSTANTES THE MEN ANKLE- LIEUSTANTES THE MEN Aptly named "Opera" - this pale lilac gown has a ruched back panel -

and is adorned with bows.

so the great dictator of fashion has decreed a "longer line". Will the modern woman return to grandma's style? If so, imagine a teenager doing the rock and roll in a hobble skirt!