

The fashion plate

Discreet, sexy—that's Anthony

By RUSTLE SHAND

Fashion and fund raising will flirt with spring at noon Tuesday, Feb. 27, in the Fairlane Manor, Dearborn, when J.L. Hudson and the Women's Association for the Detroit Symphony combine their efforts in a benefit.

John Anthony, the new darling of the discreet woman who likes a nuance of sex appeal in her mode of dress, will be on hand to present nearly a hundred pieces from his spring-summer couture collection.

Healed by fashion leaders as the designer with the newest approach to the return of serious dressing, he gives his clothes the new shaped-into-the-body look without having them look like the suit Mother wore in the 1940s.

"I have not put my label on 1950 clothes," he insisted.

Instead, Anthony uses darts, curving seams and a very light bust form for the beautiful silks, crepe de chine, jacquards and charmeuses he favors in double layers.

He has shunned coats in favor of padded shoulder jackets that complement nearly all the costumes in his line.

"All my clothes continue to wrap," Anthony said, "but this time my signature accessory is a soft, crushed reptile belt."

THIS DESIGNER does not shock with slash effects in skirts. Actually there are only two skirts in his line—both are wrapped and pencil slim and both open to just above the knee. There are, on the other hand, plenty of slim-tapered pants, cut full but flat at the front and casually rolled up a bit at the ankle.

"For the first time in my years as a designer," he said, "I've been enticed to use bright colors, but always with a certain cast as if the light is shining through."

He also favors black, particularly in a linen suit

that is set off by a fuchsia handkerchief tucked into a breast pocket.

"Black is the counterfoil for all the colors," the designer said.

There are no floor-length evening dresses in Anthony's collection, but instead pencil-slim cocktail and evening-length dresses. All elegantly wrapped and feature color and unexpected fabric combinations like silk lace with linen, satin appliqued with lace and matelasse with lace.

Beautifully styled clothing, soft makeup and a becoming hair style are all that a woman needs to look lovely, Anthony believes.

"I do not believe in costume accessories," he said. "No hats, no fake jewelry, no flowers. High-heeled sandals, a beautiful belt and that's it."

ANTHONY, a native New Yorker, won the Coty Winnie Award in 1972 and the Coty Return Award four years later. His Manhattan apartment is highlighted by his cherished collection of Chinese screens and porcelains.

Although she has not yet met this dynamic designer, Mrs. H. Wayne Nelson, president of the symphony's Women's Association, recently had a chance to see one of his designs.

An Anthony suit was flown in from New York to give a spring lift to the guests at a luncheon she attended in the Grosse Pointe home of Mrs. Charles Endicott.

As expected, the women responded enthusiastically, and Mrs. Nelson figured that bodes well for response to the luncheon and showing Feb. 27.

The event will begin with an 11:30 a.m. social hour, and the meal will be served at 12:30 p.m.

There will be seating at tables for 10. Tickets are priced at \$15 for general admission, \$25 for patrons and \$50 for benefactors. To reserve tickets, call the association, 886-6329, or write to it at 17385 Conant, Detroit, 48212.



Slim pants and a reptile belt are distinguishing marks for the John Anthony designs to be shown at a benefit for the Detroit Symphony Feb. 27.

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