

## Strict elegance

# The shapeliest ever

"The fall-winter fashion season will be one of strict elegance with a slim silhouette, bare and simple shapes giving importance to cut and the quality of fabrics. There is a revival of the basic and classic element of the wardrobe, like a good coat or suit."

So said Claire Pearone, whose Somerset Mall shop reflects the native chic of France.

"There is a complete change in fabrication with a definite return to more constructed clothes and to a tailored look for day," she said.

"Designers seem to get away from the sporty, very casual, easy-going look of past seasons. They come back to a chic sophisticated town-look, a bit strict and severe, but softened with humorous accessories, deep colors and very feminine details."

The clothes are still supple but more fitted and body conscious with a focus on shoulders, she said. "Padding, though less extreme, is emphasized through every conceivable device such as darts, tucks, pleats, quilting, piping and gathering on the tip of shoulders."

The season's brightest colors include black, interpreted here for Claire Pearone in jersey. Tunic over skirt with fly-away petals that open to flirt at the hip on the tunic and at the mid-thigh on the skirt. (Photos by Allen Schlossberg)

Waists are well marked in most cases and shaped with darts, said Ms. Pearone. "Belts are more than ever the star accessory for fall."

"Glamour," said Ms. Pearone, "returns for night in a supple and sexy silhouette created by dresses with shaped details; beaded and embroidered sweaters; fur touches and glittering or gleaming fabrics."

IMPORTANT DETAILS of the new fall season include the shorter hemline, a slimmer silhouette and the comeback of the tailored suit and the total look.

Sweater dresses and all knitwear outfits are an important part of the fall look, Ms. Pearone explained. Jumpsuits and kilt skirts are back she said, along with asymmetrical details and back buttoning for blouses, dresses and skirts. Accordion pleating for skirts is also important again, she added.

— Rustle Shand



Tiktiner calls on purest wool for his fitted and shaped coat this season. This one in softest butter shades. Claire Pearone, Somerset Mall.





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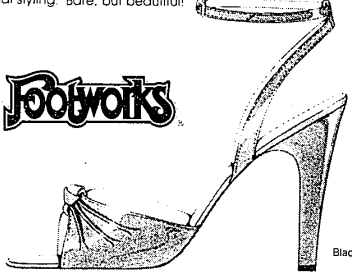
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