

It's time to warm up for your comfort's sake

By RUSTLE SHAND

Warming up in fur was the focus of an in-store floorshow recently at Jacobson's, which put an all new perspective to the meaning of warm up. Eight, tall and willowy, not to mention exotic, models paraded before the fascinated audience in full line, reversible poplin coats, jackets and vests.

It might have been the languid '40s music that inspired the models to dress in leotards, but the spirit of the furs soon had everyone thinking winter sports and the attendant limbering-up

exercises that are familiar to all who ski.

While the object of furs, warmth, is always the consideration when one considers furs, there's much more to the new fur look this season than warding off Michigan's cold, cold winter weather.

Short or long, the new fur-lined poplins and Ultra-Suedes are full of new fashion attitudes with a focus on light-weight construction. Fur-lined poplin coats slip easily over a woman's business suit. Unlimited styling includes the traditional British trench coat as

well as shawl collars, tuxedo fronts, hooded tent shapes and the traditional dress coat with double pleated front.

The machine washable Ultra Suedes even feature zip-out linings of fur, and colorful Qiana jackets reverse to matching dyed fur. Fur faces include raccoon, opossum, curly lamb, and a new sheared French rabbit that does not shed.



Above, sheared nutria lines this poplin coat, \$3,000. At right, a trio of warming looks. The brown opossum (left) reverses to brown poplin, the tan opossum (center) reverses to matching poplin, and the natural fox pieces reverse to a tan poplin vest.



What a way to cuddle up to the winter chill. This \$1,200 Ultra Suede knit trim coat is lined with nutria. Fur lined coats, jackets and vests not only keep the warmth to yourself, they are the season's newest rage on both sides of the ocean. (Staff photos by Stephen Cantrell)

Un(Sha)masking the best new looks

By RUSTLE SHAND

Until two years ago, Murray Moss and his partner, designer Ronald Shamask, ran their own specialty shop in New York City. Called Moss Originals, the shop specialized in made-to-order couture. It was also the only store where women could buy the Shamask designs.

However, it wasn't long before devotees of designer clothing had New York City buzzing with talk about "the wonderful new designer, Shamask, whose work is reminiscent of Balenciaga and Charles James." The volume of requests that poured in from other specialty stores prompted the partners to produce a small wholesale line of their couture designs.

AND THE REST, as they say, is fashion history. Having just completed a local trunk showing of the Shamask collection, Moss returned to New York last week with an empty trunk. By one o'clock on the second day of his two-day appearance at Linda Dresner's Somerset Mall store, Moss had sold all but two pieces of the collection.

"The response has been amazing!" said the excited visitor. He also credited the sell-out to a scarcity of thoughtful designs in the market. "There is a desire to buy something classic, timeless and well-made," he explained. "Something that can be worn over and over yet never be boring. Obviously, we are filling that need."

THE SHAMASK collection for fall is made primarily of two fabrics — wool flannel and silk-wool faille.

Silk-wool faille, Moss explained, is an old fabric art. But, currently it's not used by any other designer, he added. "We had it made exclusively for us by an old French fabric house," he said.

Both the wool faille and double face flannel fabrics have the body necessary for the Shamask designs, which are based on precise yet soft construction, he explained.

An overall feeling of the Orient is apparent in the collection. The simplicity of the design calls attention to the proportion, cut and balance of the clothing, Moss added. Elegance, logic and function combine in the Shamask designs, which retail from \$275 to \$700.



Shamask's target blouse, or tunic, is cut on a circle in ecru and silver silk-wool faille and teamed with a silk-wool pant. The designer's designs are so popular that his partner returned from a visit to Linda Dresner's Somerset Mall store with an empty trunk.

Where It's At

By JUDY SOLOMON



Man-Made

I'm often stumped when it comes to sending a gift to a man who's in the hospital. A bouquet of flowers seems too prissy; and, if he's not feeling well, a book requires too much effort to read. Such being the case, this "novelty arrangement" at \$30 from State Flower Galleries offers a perfect solution. Set on a ribbon-trimmed styrofoam base, the arrangement combines four magazines (chosen according to the recipient's interests), a crossword puzzle book, packs of chewing gum, rolls of tissues and a bouquet of flowers.

State Flower Galleries, 29633 Franklin Road, Southfield, 352-7880.



You've Come A Long Way, Baby

Every October, people come from miles and miles away just to buy these delightful handpainted pumpkins. In fact, Judy Aldridge paints approximately 10 tons of pumpkins each year. The artist uses brightly-colored enamel paint and an airbrush to create Raggedy Ann, Incredible Hulk, Spiderman, clown, wierdo, scary and happy faces. An average-sized handpainted pumpkin ranges in price from \$2 to \$5 while very large pumpkins cost \$12. Ms. Aldridge also paints large watering gourds (\$4 each) which will last for years.

Miller's Orchard, 14711 Clinton River Road, Sterling Heights, 247-2487. Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Clip Joint

What a good idea! Those clip-on shoe ornaments that were popular in the 50s are back on the market, and, they're a terrific and inexpensive way to dress up or vary a pair of shoes. Tapered bows (\$5) are in stock in taupe or brown leather or brown or gray suede. Square bows (\$5) come in black, burgundy or taupe leather. Then there are pouffy rhinestone-studded rosettes (\$10) in your choice of black peau de soie or gray or brown suede.

Roz and Sherm, Bloomfield Plaza, Maple and Telegraph, Birmingham, 851-0977, or Somerset Mall, Troy, 643-6488.



Under Current

Lingerie has a wonderful item that you should know about. It's a lightweight, short-sleeved, v-neck undershirt complete with shoulder pads. When you wear it underneath your old blouse, sweater or dress, you immediately obtain this year's high fashion padded-shoulder look; and it will only cost you \$30 instead of heaven knows what. The undershirt can also be used to protect your skin from all those good-looking, but uncomfortable nubby, scratchy-surfaced sweaters that are currently in vogue.

Lingerie, Somerset Mall, Troy, 649-0001.



Knitdressing now...easy, attractive and comfortable. A case in point: Christina's new knits. The longer cardigan with two rows of contrasting trim, '56. The sleeveless shell top, horizontally striped, '58. And the skirt, '44. All in red or navy with white accents, in a nubby blend of acrylic and nylon. For sizes S, M and L. In the Marisa Christina Boutique...where we are all the things you are!

Somerset Mall, Big Beaver at Coolidge. Troy • Fairlane Town Center, Dearborn