

Radiant Energy

It's a sure cure for winter blues



It's called "The Mummy" dress and it's Vicky Teal's new creation. This white jersey skin-hugging, one-piece strapless dress is available at Linda Dresner, Somerset Mall.

All that glitters won't be gold this spring. In fact, there won't be much glittering at all this season.

The opulence of evening wear past has been refined, according to Hattie's spokeswoman Carol Goldrath.

Citing the work of Chloe, St. Laurent, Ronaldus Shamask and Sonya Rykiel, Goldrath noted that "the influence is toward architecture." And designs that make strong statements in stunning ways.

"There's really a variety," she added. "Lots of little dresses . . . lacy, liny blouses. Clothes that have a feminine quality, yet they are streamlined."

At Linda Dresner's in Somerset Mall, Lu Sovell said, "Clothes are speaking pretty strongly for themselves."

She lists a strapless leather cocktail dress or Vicky Teal's beautifully draped matte jersey among the season's best for night.

"Vicky Teal did one dress that is draped, almost like a Venetian blind. You slither into it and it's above the knee," describes Sovell.

Another great look for evening that's dressy but not formal is a combination of suede and silk. "We did a grey suede long skirt and dark grey silk tunic. It was a very luxurious look," Sovell added.

Anna Bassett, owner of Claire Pearone in Somerset Mall, said pants are making important statements this spring. But in attempts to offer something different, Mrs. Bassett said she's been to New York and is having special outfits designed just for her customers.

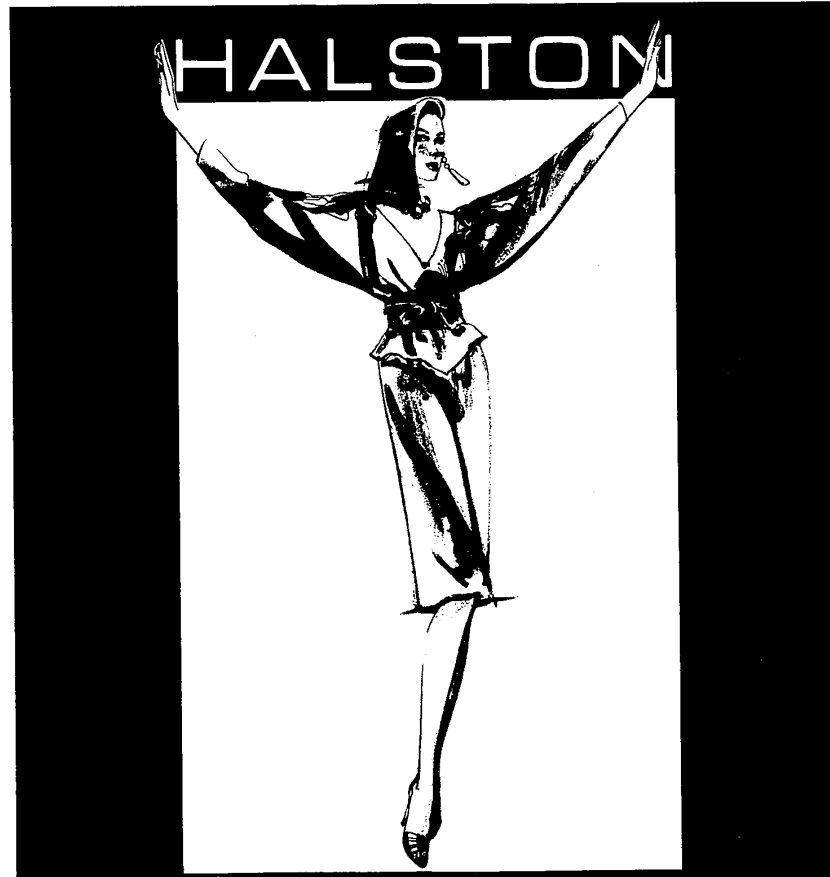
"There will be a lot of silks in all variations of pants, from the long pant to culottes and short skirts," she said.



Split skirt dressing will be worn everywhere this season. This hand-painted silk taffeta bolero jacket by Fabrice tops a layered silk split skirt. It's worn with a sash and gold snakeskin pump by Maud Frizon. Available at Hattie, Birmingham.



Halter dressing takes on a new look with this two-piece silk chiffon petal designed dress by Tarquin. Available at Claire Pearone, Somerset Mall.



Halston's harbinger of Spring. A new, narrow skirt topped with a sashed dolman-sleeved V-neck. Dramatically splashed with pink and lavender flowers. Part of the excitement of the season blossoming now at Halston in Renaissance Center.

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