

Malls & Mainstreets

The Farmington Observer

Page 6, Section C

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on the web: http://observer.eo.hometown.com

Sunday, May 7, 2000

Gold hues influence more than just jewelry

REAL DEAL



CARI WALDMAN

There's no question we've hit a gold rush, as far as summer style is concerned.

Gold has returned in many things: lipstick, Capri pants, aviator sunglasses, thin bracelet watches, footwear and, of course, jewelry.

After years of shying away from the shiny tone, the trends of the moment have thrust gold back into the forefront of fashion. And, infusing gold into your life seems to again signify luxury, just like it did in the early '80s.

In other words, there's an appetite for brilliance in our summer fare. And, if you ask me, the gold mine is here not a moment too soon.

Here's three modern ways to plunder the mine for summer.

Blushing gold

What's "now" in cosmetics is make-up glowing with gold, and, as the heavier makeup season draws to a close, the interest in using gold on the face heats up.

I spotted glimmering amber products at such department store makeup counters as M.A.C., Christian Dior, Lancome, Chanel and Clinique, as well as in drug store displays for Revlon, Almay and Loreal.

According to area makeup artists, the golden picks for day are: gold eye shadow highlighters used just below the brow bone, bronze shimmer powders for the face and neck, and sheer, gold lip glosses worn without a lip liner.

Not sure? Oh, lighten up - literally. Gold is meant to complement daily makeup, not overpower it. If nothing else, gold tones leave the skin radiant and fresh. And, what could be more refreshing than that?

Fashion hues

Interestingly, but hardly surprisingly, designers, too, are feverishly reinterpreting gold.

Anne Klein, for instance, uses gold in her sporty collection of silk Capri pants and stretch tees. But, because her gold hues look more like the color of hummus than shiny pennies, the collection is an up-to-the-minute look that isn't brassy.

When buttery leather jackets, delicate silk tees, and halter tops are done in the same soft gold, the shade harmonizes beautifully with summer's neutral palette of black, khaki, white and denim.

Putting a gold T-shirt - a Michael Stars tee is a good pick - or halter, under a traditional midnight blue or black suit, for example, brightens up evening wear.

Instead of dropping a load of cash on the gold trend, I recommend visiting stores with moderate prices like Express or Contempo Casuals where I found tops in shades of gold for about \$20.

Jewelry, jewelry

Following suit, jewelry designers have chosen gold as the metal of choice for the season, so dust off any gold pieces you haven't been wearing and fall in love with them all over again.

Interestingly enough, other jewelry trends are being fused with gold tones. Cast bronze necklaces are, for example, being mixed with turquoise, colorful precious stones, pearls and gypsy-inspired beads.

Just keep in mind gold jewelry should be used to enhance and update, rather than trounce on, your personal style.

"You can accomplish the new, fresh gold look when you use gold as an enhancer to your style," says Leslie Ann Pilling of Presence II in downtown Birmingham. "If you have a gold chain that you haven't worn in years, update it with a cast bronze slide, or add a few simple gold bangles to your silver or platinum bracelets. Mixing the two materials is cool and hip."

Cari Waldman is a free-lance writer and stylist who lives in West Bloomfield. Please send your style and shopping questions to Cari at OEReadDeal@aol.com.

Sneak peak



STAFF PHOTO BY JOHN STOKES

Fall choices: Escada's couture pieces for evening spanned many styles. From traditional satin ball gowns in black, red, gold and silver to slinky, beaded, spaghetti-strap dresses, there was something for everybody. Escada's Fall and Winter 2000 Collection was shown at Neiman Marcus, the Somerset Collection in Troy to benefit the Children's Charities Coalition.

Neiman Marcus fall fashion show predicts variety

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
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If Escada's Fall/Winter 2000 Collection, shown Tuesday at Neiman Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy, is any indication of what's in store for fashion-lovers following summer, there's sure to be no lack of options.

Held in conjunction with a luncheon to benefit The Children's Charities Coalition, the well-attended show gave local fashion watchers a rare opportunity to glimpse what's new, what's back and what's sizzling for fall.

The collection had tremendous breadth and bowed its head to both classic and trendy designs - often with an eye towards role-playing.

One segment of the show, for example, paired soft taupe-colored cowboy hats, flat boots and Cowgirl-influenced skirts with classic, tailored jackets.

Another showed Navy separates with visible red stitching that conjured up the '70s image of the sexy stewardess.

A sleeveless, zip-front, black, leather body suit and series of saucy leopard prints - along with the appearance of front, top-of-thigh slits on skirts throughout the show - suggested playing vamp will be in style next season.

Although many current trends were echoed - lots of leather, use of vibrant colors, ruffled edges, elaborate beading and pashmina wraps - the collection nodded to something more down-to-earth.

Tailored suits, asymmetrical tunics and voluminous wraps came out in such colors as ivory, camel, chocolate brown and taupe. Once more, there was a healthy dose of such classics as tweed, pin stripes and paisley.

The notion that there was something for everybody was most evident at the close of the show. Escada's couture pieces for evening ranged from slinky, beaded spaghetti-strap dresses to youthful ball gown skirts with sweater sets to traditional satin gowns in red, black and silver and gold.



Familiar sights: Escada's collection for fall and winter, shown Tuesday at Neiman Marcus in Troy, reflected many current fashion trends, including the emphasis on leather separates.

Retail, style and special store events are listed in this calendar. Please send information to: Malls & Mainstreets, c/o Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax: (248) 644-1314. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for publication the following Sunday.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

FALL FASHION
View the Badgley Mischka Fall 2000 Special Order Collection and informal modeling from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy, through May 11. For details, call (248) 614-3393.

SATURDAY, MAY 13
WOMEN HELPING WOMEN
The Somerset Collection in Troy hosts the 2nd Annual Women Helping Women luncheon and fashion show to raise funds for the Pontiac Rescue Mission from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ritz Carlton in Dearborn. WDIV Channel 4 TV anchor Ruth Spencer and Teresa Tomeo, speaker and media consultant, co-host the show. For information, call (248) 648-8900.

FAMILY FUN FEST

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

The Livonia Mall, at Middlebelt and Seven Mile roads, hosts Karaoke, arts and crafts, a Fokemon workshop and tournament and spring fashion show for kids, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in celebration of Mother's Day weekend. Call (248) 478-1160 for more information.

LIZ CLAIBORNE WARDROBE WORKSHOP
Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi offers a wardrobe workshop featuring the season's must-have items and Liz Claiborne's Spring 2000 Collection, 2 p.m. For additional information, call (248) 593-1370.

TREND WARDROBING/BOOK-SIGNING
Saks Fifth Avenue, the Somerset Collection in Troy, hosts Michele Weston, fashion and style director of Mode Magazine and Modestyle.com. Weston discusses trend wardrobing and signs copies of her book *Learning Curves - Living Your Life in Full & With Style*, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For details, call (248) 614-3823.

PLYMOUTH FARMER'S MARKET

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce hosts the opening of the Plymouth Farmer's Market, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The outdoor market sets up at the Gathering, across from Kellogg Park next to the Penn Theater in downtown Plymouth.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

ST. JOHN CARAVAN

Nordstrom, the Somerset Collection in Troy, presents the St. John's Spring 2000 Collection featuring an assortment of suits, dresses and gowns. A continental breakfast begins the event at 8:30 a.m. with informal modeling until 10:30 a.m. Tamar Arslanian, a St. John representative, will be available to assist customers with selections and answer questions until 3 p.m., Studio 121, second floor. To make a reservation, call (248) 816-5100, ext. 1550.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

IN CONCERT

Wonderland Mall in Livonia hosts Bobby Lewis & The Crackerjack Band, 5-9 p.m., Food Court. For details, call (734) 622-4100.