



Photos by Cynthia Abbat

New OCC class starts

Designer creates for women who want to be noticed

By LORAIN McCLISH

"Know thyself" might be a cliché," says Christiane d'Ornano-Corso McCormick, "but it sums up my philosophy completely for the woman today who wants to be seductive, gorgeous, ageless, unique."

"And that's about all of us, isn't it?"

The one time fashion model for French couturier Christian Dior who turned fashion designer, then teacher, is packaging up her philosophy for a new course at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus.

"How to Design Your Own Clothes," begins Jan. 20 and will run for ten Thursday evenings.

The key, she says, is knowing your own figure and how to embellish it and enhance it.

Mrs. McCormick is a Bloomfield resident who has just completed eight years of teaching design at Chicago's Art Institute and is in the throes of going into business for herself with a capsule line of versatile pieces which combine for the wrap around and tie look.

HER LINE IS a mix and match ensemble of hand-painted skirts, turbans and halters to be worn in a multitude of ways, morning, noon or night, made along simple lines "that can adjust to just about any shape or form for the woman who wants to be noticed."

One does this, she continues, "by covering the ugly parts and revealing the attractive parts."

The focus of the course is on individual figures so class maximum is 15, but if registration goes much over that, she'll take on a second class for the winter term.

Mrs. McCormick says neither previous art experience or knowing how to sew is necessary to join the class, though knowing how to use a sewing machine would definitely be of help.

Areas to be covered throughout the ten weeks include basic design principles, the selection of a design, pattern development, construction of a final garment from the pattern and some tailoring instructions.

"Homework will be necessary," she says, "if I am going to teach all I promise."

SHE SUSPECTS that one of the most useful pieces of knowledge her students will take home is the basic pattern each will make for herself.

The pattern will be made by transferring body measurements onto paper; then transferring this onto muslin. From this, she says, "you can make any thing; you can develop from that any kind of design."

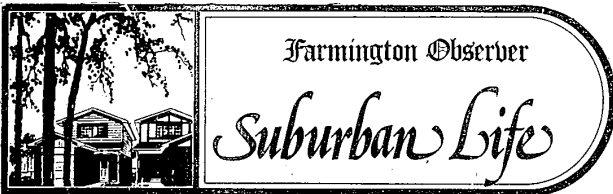
She refers to clothes "as a second skin that should move with you" and claims that women who have less than the ideal figure can still dress attractively "as long as they don't wear their clothes as if they were hanging on a hanger."

She believes that commercial patterns leave a lot to be desired, from the point of fit and shape, and that manufactured clothes leave a lot to be desired from "both the aesthetic and pocketbook" point of view.

She is in hopes that her students will each leave the class with at least one good garment completed specifically for her.

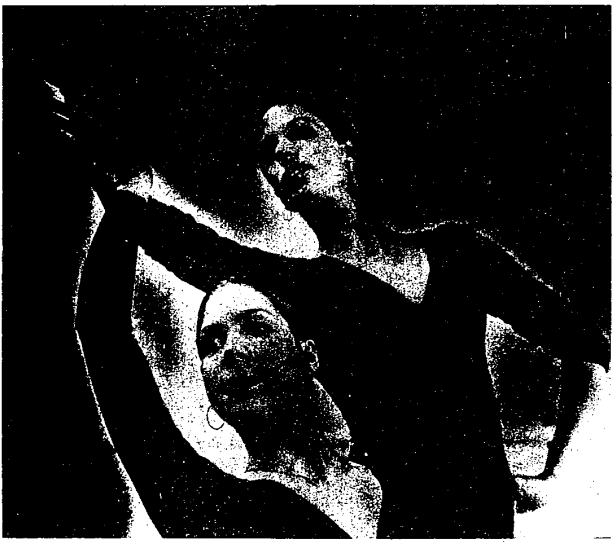
By "good garment" she means, "with a design that leads the eye to the attractive parts of the body. If you've got nothing in the front, then

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Monday, January 17, 1977

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CARYN MAJESKI AND KATHY TAYLOR

Area ballerinas appear in 'Naughty Marietta'

Two ballerinas from Farmington who received their training with Evelyn Kresson's Michigan Ballet Theatre, are now dancing with the Michigan Opera Theatre's production of "Naughty Marietta."

Caryn Majeski, a performing member of the Michigan Ballet, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chet Majeski.

Kathy Taylor, a graduate member of Michigan Ballet, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Taylor.

"Naughty Marietta" is being presented at Detroit's Music Hall through Jan. 22.

This is the second time Miss Majeski has performed at the Music Hall. Her first appearance there was with the Michigan Ballet Theatre's

production of "Nutcracker Ballet" which was repeated for area audiences during the pre-Christmas season at Harrison High School.

Miss Majeski is in her fifth year of dancing with the Michigan Ballet Theatre, and has been studying the dance since she was four years old with Mrs. Kresson.

During the summer of 1976, she auditioned, and was accepted, into Pennsylvania Ballet Company's Summer Study Program for six weeks. She is now in her junior year at Harrison.

MISS TAYLOR HAS been a student with Mrs. Kresson since she was seven years old and still continues to take a weekly class with her in the studio at 31315 Thirteen Mile.

In 1976 Miss Taylor received a BA in business administration from Stephens College, in Columbia, Mo., and is presently employed with Metropolitan National Bank of Farmington.

Some of the songs in Victor Herbert's "Naughty Marietta" are "Ah, Sweet Mystery of Life," "I'm Falling In Love With Someone," and "Italian Street Song."

The production is the third in a series of four for the Music Hall's World Premiere Season for 1976-77. Tickets are available by calling 963-3717.

Michigan Ballet Theatre, now celebrating its 10th anniversary year, is in rehearsals for a spring production of "Graduation Ball" for suburban audiences.



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