

Look what's afoot now

All that glitters goes to accessories this fall.

The fashion word on the little things that mean a lot when it comes to putting it all together comes from Noel LeGrand.

LeGrand — at the age of 27 — has been associated with high fashion for more than five years, first with designer Pierre Cardin in France. Three years ago he switched to accessories with Charles Jourdan. Now manager of Jourdan's Renaissance Center salon, he is responsible for opening Charles Jourdan shops across the nation.

Accessories are the youthful manager's specialty, especially so, he said, with the growing importance of shoes, belts and bags to this fall's "Total Look."

Now, to his delight, high heels have taken a strong fashion position in the past two years. He contends it is because of the shorter hemlines and for what a heel can do for the leg.

"We want to make the leg look as flattering as possible as well as keep with the lines of the clothes," he commented. "Through the pump we alleviate the ankle strap which in the past took away from the lithe long leg by cutting it at the ankle. If used at all, straps are lower, fitting closer to the arch of the foot."

Secondly, and most significantly, he added, is the adaptability of the pump from daytime to evening wear.

"There is a blurring of the line of what can be worn in the daytime and evening," he said.

THE WOMAN who's schedule runs the gamut from office conservative to nighttime glitter will discover that the pump becomes an active transitional accommodation, he explained. The addition of ornamentation gives that extra addition for nighttime balance.

The pump retains its classic lines, LeGrand explained; however, there is an accommodation to this season's stark, straight lines and dark muted colors. Accessories are also stark in line, but are flexible in their subtlety through the use of fans, scallops, flames and edged piping in golds and coppers to contrast and balance the total appearance.

Color choice is also versatile. Black will be the ideal neutral in clothes and accessories. "Deep muted tones lead to a heavier appearance in shoes. The reasoning is deliberate to contrast with the starkness of dress," he explained. No longer is it gray, but charcoal, burnished mauves, raspberries, and crimson.

However, said LeGrand, for those who are not quite ready for the transitional pump for evening, there are stunning open-toed sandals that glitter with rhinestones. The look is more subtle than last year's, but still very effective.

A CARRYOVER from the heavier pump is an evening "Bootie." LeGrand calls it "most spectacular — an abrupt switch from the high leather boot of last fall."

The lines of this shoe remain classic, the heel higher and narrower, and the sides scooped low in the front. Patent leather, usually reserved for spring, is important as a mixture with suede. To arouse just a hint of after dark abandon there will be slightly daring metallic motifs at the sides.

"We must keep in mind that the calf and ankle are very strong — a major focal point," LeGrand emphasized.

Daytime boots will be played down. The "Squishy Boot," which is gathered at the ankle is presented with a stacked heel. The

sportier appearance also includes the "Sexy Cowboy Boot," which combines the practicality of tougher leather and hand tooled engravings with sleekness. The cowboy boot will be a changeover from the "disco sandal" and blue jeans, the combination that initiated transitions in day to evening wear.

THE CLUTCH is another key accessory. Soft buttery bags come in the same rich colors to match the shoes. Like the pump, the bags remain classic and versatile. Outlined in the same scalloped ornamentation, the clutch is also interchangeable from day to night. All are equipped with fine gold shoulder chains that can be tucked inside a special pocket for day, pulled out at night.

"There is a need for sophistication," said LeGrand, "and this clutch speaks of the sophisticate."

There are hints of gold everywhere this season but no initials will be seen. "Initials are completely out," he emphasized. Initials will be seen only on the inside of the bag.

Perhaps the most startling look will be evening bags devoted strictly to nighttime appeal. Among them, are clutches that are very stark and contemporary, featuring bright enamels in shocking vibrant reds, dark pinks, and deep blue. All are edged in gold. Silver and gold glitter set in a hard see-through plastic are trend setting, as are the shapes — ovals, triangles and squares. This evening look is the alternative to the soft bag.

LEGRAND BELIEVES belts also have an important function this season. Wear them wide over the jacket of a two piece suit. Some even glitter with design.

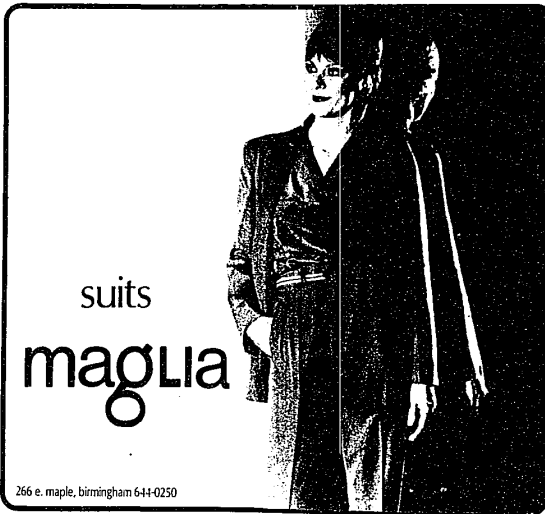
"The belt can afford to be more detailed, because the lines of the clothes are so stark."

Belts are also narrower, designed to be worn over the "New Knits." The newest soft knits in sweaters create a need for an eye focal point. The narrower belt does this without distracting the eye.

Jourdan does not stop at the belt. Structured, very hip "Cat's Eye" sunglasses, glare with two tone shades — black with rust, red with grey or pumpkin orange. Besides being practical fall weather wear, the look completes LeGrand's theory of "Fashion Focus."

"It's all a matter of contrast in accessories this year," said LeGrand. With Jourdan, he concluded, nothing is ever overdone.

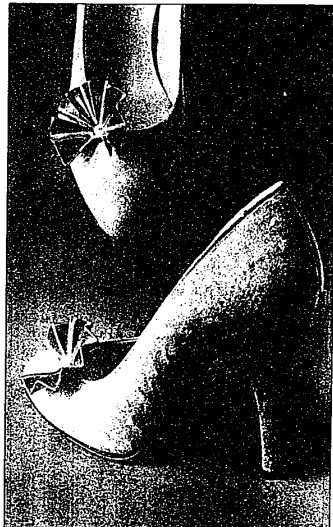
— Deborah Templeton



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The Jourdan evening dance pump and its matching belt will make you the focus of attention, especially when it is interpreted in burnished gold. The frankly Hollywood influence even extends to its name, The Hollywood.



The outspoken star of the season is "The Pump," named Amelia by Charles Jourdan. Stark in line with a stacked heel, it carries the allure of classic formality with a hint of flirtatious ornamentation. Renaissance World of Shops. (Staff photos by Dick Kelley)

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