

Shimmer shapes nighttime glamour



Black and gold silk paisley adorns the shaped torso of double ruffled, short evening dress, \$678. Albert Nipon. Bonwit Teller, Somerset Mall.

FORMAL DOESN'T MEAN staid. It means shine, shimmer and silk. It means shoulder baring, shaped and short gowns reminiscent of the '60s. And it means wonderful little cocktail hats, sparkling faux jewels and shoes that glitter with rhinestones and whimsical, humorous messages in gold and silver.

We saw a forecast of things yet to come at the Detroit Institute of Arts' Centennial Ball. The showstoppers in a sea of elegant dressing were sequin, faux pearl and palette-crusted extravagant hip-top jackets over narrow crepe trousers. This fall the glorious jacket, with its opulent beading and glittery paisley metallics, and the brocade bolero are nighttime investment dressing that will dazzle the collector's eye.

In honor of our fashion forecast designer, Adolfo personally chose his suggestions for nighttime extravagant dressing. Each one, one short and one long, shines with glitters with details that will stand out like beacons in a season that conjures thoughts of rising to the occasion.

PANTS, SHORT and long skirts, old-world inspired dressing up, all have their places in this dressed-up season. Brocade pant suits, black velvet slip dresses crusted with rhinestones, tapestry wrap coats worn over antique lace jabots and silk

damask and silk organza trousers, shimmer in shades of brights. Many designs are trimmed with gold tassels. The nighttime looks that rave raves will vie with each other for attention getting entrances. Color runs the gamut, from deepest royal purples to brightest brights and subtle shadings copied from your favorite upholstery fabrics.

THE CLASSIC wide-leg evening trouser is back, cut generously from velvet in shades of nighttime ink to step out to dinner, the theater and the cocktail party. These looks combine the comfort of pajama dressing with the sophistication of Noel Coward's London nighttime scene.

One of the season's nighttime surprises is the appearance of leather, treated as if it were the softest, supple fabric. Cut into the coat dress shape it looks best when lavished with evening boots, colored at the throat with fabulous faux jewelry, or draped with an exceptional fur.

Mix and mismatch tapestries and paisleys this fall. Give them old-world elegance with accents of lace and pearls. Step out for the evening wearing low-heeled tapestry boots or flats. Or, for more casual, yet elegant, entertaining, mix or mismatch tapestries and paisleys and team them with flannel trousers.



The return of the elegant cocktail hat with fuchsia taffeta short gown with an overlay of black lace and a three-tier ruffle hem, \$300. Claire Pearson.



Black, short pairing made up of sequined skirt and sequin trimmed, knit jacket, \$2700. The red silk chiffon, long

gown with gold and beaded knit jacket, \$2300. By Adolfo. Saks Fifth Avenue.



Black velvet, briefly shaped and strapless short gown sparkling with rhinestones, \$985. By Adam Deal. Roz & Shorn, Bloomfield Plaza.

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