

Fall fashion action

Saks kicks off season with Badgley Mischka



STAFF PHOTOS BY JERRY ZALINNY

Rich and grand: The Badgley Mischka fall 2001 collection closed with a series of signature evening gowns.

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Motown doesn't pretend to be a fashion mecca, but as summer fades and fall approaches, the style scene in metropolitan Detroit gets downright kinetic.

Fash Bash, which will be presented by Marshall Field's (formerly Hudson's), is slated for Friday, August 10 at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. This year, actress and former model Brooke Shields will host the Founders Junior Council event to benefit the Detroit Institute of Arts. Marshall Field's will feature designer ready-to-wear apparel.

Also on its way is Saks Fifth Avenue's annual Mode Du Concours runway show and luncheon. Slated for Friday, August 3 at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills, the event is one of many held during the week of the Concours d'Elegance car show. This year, Saks will present Elie Tahari's fall 2001 collection under an outdoor tent on the scenic grounds of Meadow Brook Hall.

As in past years, Saks' annual fall fashion show at the Detroit Institute of Arts opened the season's runway show frenzy.

Held July 17, the event showcased the latest Badgley Mischka collection and gave local fashion followers their first look at fall style trends.

The standout feature of the collection by designers Mark Badgley and James Mischka was color. But we're not talking about the splashy shades that were so abundant this past spring and summer.

On the contrary, a palette of dark, rich and refined tones — chocolate, burgundy, taupe, black, red and mocha — brought an earthy, practical sophistication to the collection.

The finale of the show, which featured the designers' signature gowns, navigated the landscape of the color grey.

From silver to teal-tinted grey to grey-with-a-blush, the segment endowed what is

often considered a dull color with complexity and range. Silhouettes struck an understated tone, too.

Pleated skirts, ruffles and fur collars — all reminders of the recent focus on lady-like dressing — were conservative and pared down, dodging bourgeois decadence in favor of subtle femininity.

If anything, the combination of composed color and design at work in the collection conjured up Victorian themes. Ironically enough, these same characteristics hinted at bohemia in other ensembles.

It's hard to believe that such dark composure could follow several seasons of bright colors and a summer of splashy graphics and bold prints.

But the Badgley Mischka collection speaks right to the heart of fall fashion trends; ready or not, the mood is understated, earnest and even somber.

No wonder black is back in vogue.



Skirt shapes: A pleated leather skirt was one of several leather pieces in the collection.

Mode Du Concours

What: Fashion show luncheon with Saks Fifth Avenue presenting the Elie Tahari fall 2001 collection

When: 11 a.m., August 3

Where: Meadow Brook Hall, Rochester Hills
Tickets: \$75 and \$125, call (248) 370-3140

Fash Bash

What: Fashion event presented by Marshall Field's to benefit The Founders Junior Council, the Detroit Institute of Arts

When: 8 p.m., August 10

Where: Fox Theatre, Detroit
Tickets: \$35-300, call (313) 983-6611 or (248) 645-6666.



Subtle femininity: A fitted, strapless cocktail dress (above) was adorned with a flounce hem. Gathers created fullness on an off-the-shoulder look (left).



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Best resale store		
Best sporting goods store		
Best store for the kitchen		
Best store for bargains		
Store with best customer service		
Store with best events/community service		
Store with best selection		
Best store decor		
Best store exterior/signs		
Best store displays		
	Malls	Mainstreets
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Best for dragging along husband/boyfriend		
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