

# Fall fashions dazzle Eugene

High-fashion glamour arrived in Eugene recently, temporarily transforming Silva Hall into a mystical fashion playground. "Magic Castle," the theme of Kaufman's annual fashion show, was a dazzling combination of music, dance and, most importantly, designer clothing.

The show, sponsored by Kaufman's (a women's clothing store), the Active 20-30 Auxiliary and the Hult Center, featured a sequence of 14 "mini-productions," each with a different fashion theme.

Precise choreography and music enhanced the mood of these productions, which ranged from Calvin Klein's sporty "Bitch-In-Big-City-Blues" to the sensuous "Midnight Fantasies."

Kaufman's Mary Jane Stuck, the show's coordinator, went all-out in providing enough original, special effects and props to keep the audience enthralled throughout the one-and-one-half-hour production. A 1922 roadster, a series of magic tricks and a Burmese python were among the show's many surprises.

But the real stars were the designers whose fall collections were being shown. Designs by Norma Kamali, Calvin Klein, Liz Claiborne and Ralph Lauren were highlights.

These clothes reflect the trends and changes in today's fashion world. A distinctive sportswear orientation is obvious in the simplicity and ease

of design in the separates. Menswear is an important influence everywhere this season, with man-tailored jackets and trousers being especially prominent.

Key elements of this look are big, squared-off shoulders and noticeably sharp details. The variety of fabric patterns and textures available leave much room for experimentation.

Coats are an essential wardrobe item this season. Because of the multitude of styles and shapes offered, coats are making big waves this fall. The most classically designed shapes have been updated and redefined in new and exciting fabrics.

The coats shown included a luxurious silver fox, a full-length bright purple wool and a snug shiny trench in black leather. All three are representative of this year's freewheeling fashion attitude.

Evening wear and lingerie vary in style from all-out glamour to classic elegance. Black lace tap pants and hip-emphasizing dresses conjure up visions of 1920s movie starlets.

The show was rounded-out with Boy George-inspired "Androgynous Dressing" and examples of the extremely trendy fashion craze — neon brights.

From start to finish, "Magic Castle" gave everyone watching a tightly packaged presentation, highlighting the best of this fall's clothing — a real treat for Eugene's fashion audience.

Kirsten Bolin

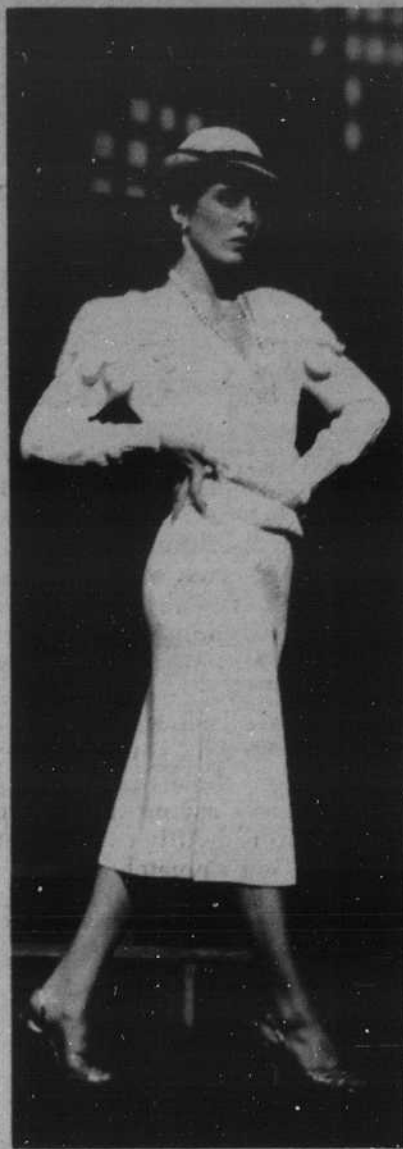


Photo by Michael Downey

The best of fall fashion graced the Silva Hall stage recently during Kaufman's "Magic Castle" fashion show extravaganza.



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