



OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
BY Kathryn Hall Bogle

IT WAS AN AUDACIOUS, bold affair—The Ebony Fashion Fair of 1984. It was also the Fashion Extravaganza that surpassed every expectation held by the sell-out crowd of 1500-plus persons who viewed it in Portland last Friday evening at the Red Lion Inn at Jantzen Beach.

The traveling show, presented in Portland by The Links, Inc., for the 14th year, was brilliant, fast-paced and an exciting whirl into high-fashion information. A dozen slim, willowy models and one, pleasingly plump, wore gowns from the top fashion houses of the world. A pair of kings, twin brothers Ron and Rod Fuller, of Dallas, ruled the runway at every appearance, whether they were wearing Pierre Cardin, Hart Schaffner and Marx or Sears Roebuck—or a G-string.

Back again, also, was Shayla Simpson with her incomparable voice and style as a commentator. "Here to be noticed and always to be remembered," said Shayla, as a model strolled out in a full-length white fox fur coat and matching hat.



But then—to be remembered, was a dizzying array of dresses and gowns in plaids, polka dots and solids. Some dresses were fashioned in all three. Dresses were offered with wide, wide diaphanous skirts, others, fit the form like a second skin. There were dresses with no sleeves, some had no backs at all, some had fanny wraps of gold satin, one had a tassel set with rhinestones placed on a hip bone that caught every light as the hip swayed.

Hem lines went from mini-skirt to just above the knee, to just below the knee, to mid-calf, to ankle—sometimes one dress, worn at mini length, magically became full formal length at the release of a hidden ribbon.

There was embroidered lace for afternoon and evening. Some lace gowns were worn next to the skin with a "bare minimum" underneath the lace.

Body sculpture was visible with skirts slit nearly to the waist, buttons were for unbuttoning for metered revelation. "This is the way," Shayla said, "to leave a lasting impression."

Evening wear scintillated at every entrance. Sequins sprinkled over an entire garment, sequins in pave design making stripes on a skirt or up the side of evening pants suits, a sequin tie for a man's blue evening

suit, sequins worn and knit into an evening sweater to go with a satin skirt, sequins for a bandeau top—wherever a sparkle will catch the light, they were there.

For active sports and leisure wear, primary colors for day wear had no limit, if used with a knowing hand. Geometric designs—graphics, held the attention.

Shayla dropped famous names constantly as she credited designers of the 200 costumes shown—names like Bill Blass, Karl Lagerfeld, Ungaro, Givenchy, Dior, Saint Laurent, Valentino, Tita Rossi, Yamamoto, Cardin, Jackie O, Calvin Klein, Kamali, Sweet-Loo and dozens of others.

Robert Fentress, production coordinator for EFF, complimented Clementyne Gay, general chair for the Portland presentation and her co-chair, Jacquelyn Brown, who had charge of ticket sales.

Credit also went to other Link members who chaired committees: Mildred Reynolds, Jacqueline Washington, Johnnie Stokes, Fannie Chatman, June Brown, Jewell Johns and Addie Jean Haynes.

President of the local chapter of The Links is Geneva Jones.

Recipients of the proceeds for the benefit show were listed as the North Portland Nurse Practitioner Community Health Center operated by the Albina Ministerial Alliance which provides pediatric services for medically needy youth. Also receiving funds will be the United Negro College Fund, the American Cancer Society and the Link's Educational Scholarship Fund.



IN A SIMPLE nuptial mass, Anita Adelle Rae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arvold R. Rae, and Robert Evans Walton, of San Diego, celebrated their marriage at St. Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church on Saturday, April 28th, with about 200 friends and relatives in attendance.

The Rev. M. Ramsey Schadewitz, who conducted the ceremony, was assisted by Deacon Alcena Boozer who came from The Divinity School of the Pacific, at Berkeley, to take part in the service.

Vows were said before a candlelit altar adorned with mixed bouquets of snapdragons, gladiolas and carnations in ivory, rose and burgundy shades.

The bride wore her mother's floor



Anita Adelle Rae and Robert Evans Walton were married Saturday in a candlelight ceremony at St. Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church. (Photo: Jim Godsey Photography)

length heirloom wedding gown of ivory satin, styled with long sleeves buttoned at the wrist. The gown was fashioned with a wide-pleated deep surplice collar and fitted waist. A finger tip veil fell from a coronet embroidered with pearls. The bride wore a short necklace of pearls and small pearl button earrings. She carried a hand bouquet of ivory and rose minuet roses tied with ivory satin ribbons. On the arm of her father, Arvold Rae, she came down the church aisle between pews marked with ivory satin ribbon bows and streamers.

The bride's two attendants, Karen Breach of Washington, D.C., and Michelle Griffin of San Diego, wore matching floor length gowns of rose-colored silk made with low square necks, front and back, with puffed elbow length sleeves. They each carried hand bouquets of roses and carnations in shades of rose, pink and burgundy.

Robert Walton, the bridegroom, his groomsmen and ushers wore formal suits of pearl grey with carnation boutonnières. Harold Davis, of San Diego, and Troy Smith, of Arlington, Virginia, were attendants for Walton. Ushers, both of Portland, were Kent Walton, the brother of the bridegroom, and Randy Rae, brother of the bride.

The traditional service included congregational prayer and song to the accompaniment of the organ, but also included scripture readings by Gertrude Rae, mother of the bride, who is also a lay-reader at St. Philip Church. The newly combined families knelt together for a shared communion following the singling ceremony before they were joined by the full congregation.

A reception followed the wedding service with friends gathered for a lavish buffet at the Holiday Inn at the Coliseum. Dancing, a three-tiered wedding cake frosted in pink, and a champagne fountain were diversions until long after the newly weds departed for a honeymoon unannounced as to destination. The bridegroom is associated with a corporate insurance firm in San Diego and the bride is a physician in Washington, D.C.

Out of town guests for the wedding included: Annie Mae Walton of Colorado Springs, Colorado, mother of the bridegroom; Chinnell Walton, father of the bridegroom, from Mindon, Louisiana; Carl and Louise Thompson of Seattle, Ruth and Emmett Holmes, Armit Holmes, Marian Wallace and Edna Jefferson, relatives of the bride, from Vancouver, B.C.

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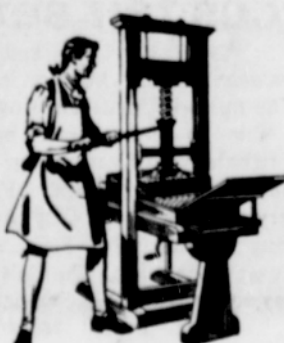
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