

Features

Black designers stage Winston-Salem benefit

They put wow into wool, weave class into cotton, and add sass to silk. Now, some of America's top black fashion designers will pull out all stops in Winston-Salem to benefit Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., in "Fashion for Mist Behavin'," a showcase of black fashion designers sponsored by Canadian Mist.

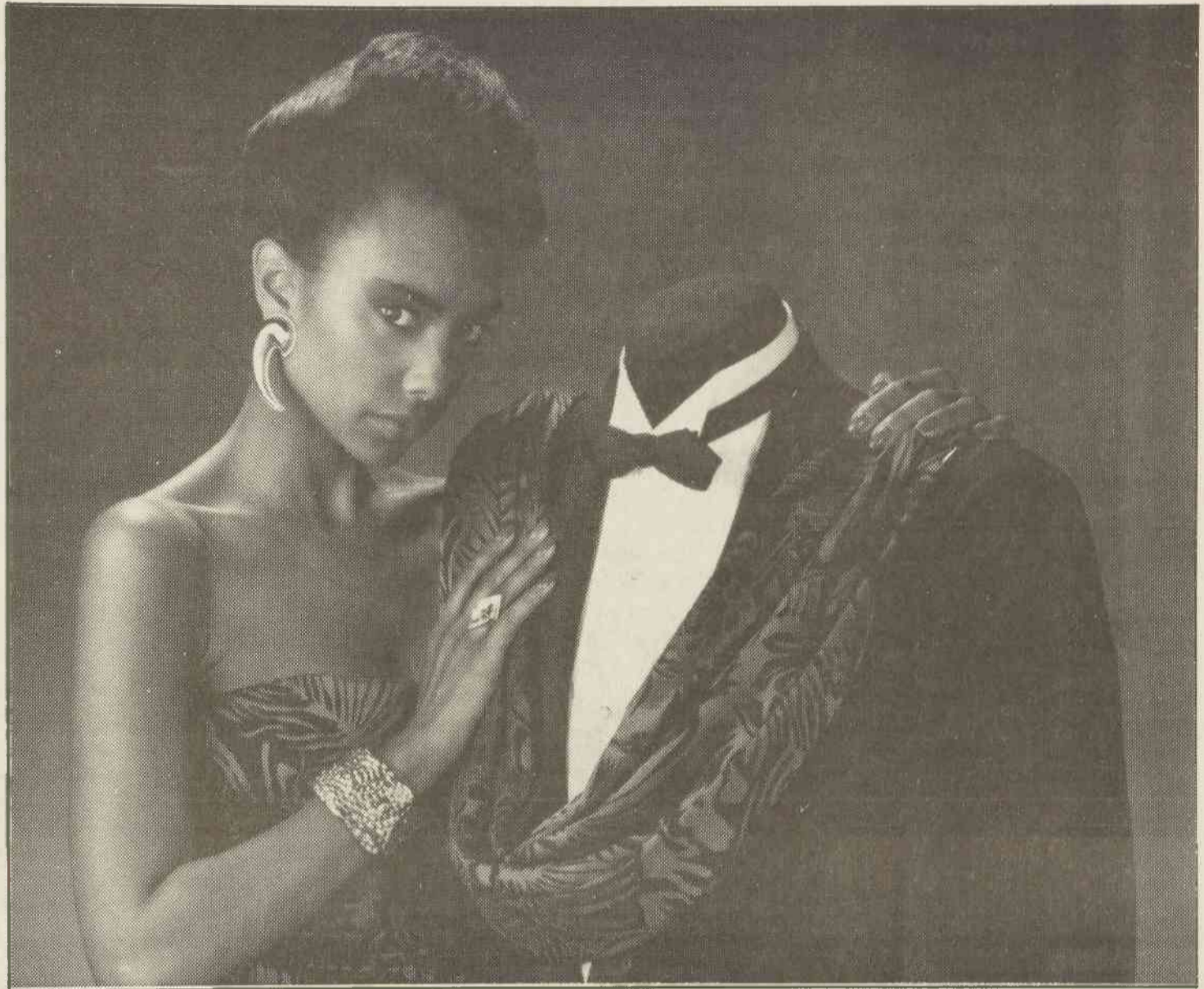
"Fashion for Mist Behavin'" is Canadian Mist's second annual salute to black fashion designers. Wearing the fashions of Kevin-Robert, Sterling Capricio, Zulma, Reginald Thomas and others, local models will high-step across the stage of Williams Auditorium on Jan. 7 at 8 p.m. Proceeds from the show will benefit the fraternity's public service programs in Winston-Salem's black community.

GREEK CORNER

"We are very pleased to have the opportunity to work with Omega Psi Phi," said Ack Willets, vice president and brand director for Canadian Mist. "The Omegas have a proud heritage in this community. Canadian Mist hopes that, through our affiliation, we can make an already strong organization even stronger and able to reach out to a few more people."

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., was the first black fraternity founded on a black college campus. The Winston-Salem chapter of Omega Psi Phi was incorporated in 1932, and currently has 75 members whose energies are channeled toward several national and local projects. Among them are a national fundraising telethon coordinated with other local chapters; an endowment fund at Winston-Salem State University; scholarships to local high school seniors pursuing a college education; and The Omega Camp, a summer camp for young men from single-parent homes.

"As an organization of professional, college-educated men, we believe that Omega Psi Phi has a responsibility to provide positive examples of black manhood in our communities, and to encourage young men to achieve their fullest potential," said Robert McCollum, basileus of the fraternity. "Fashion for Mist Behavin'" will help us fund local programs that will inspire and teach local youths to succeed in education, job training and other endeavors. As the sponsor of the show, Canadian Mist is investing in Winston-Salem's future — and it couldn't have made a better investment."



Anytime, anyplace is the rule for "Mist Behavin'." But when some of America's hottest designs by today's top black designers are featured in "Fashion for Mist Behavin': A Showcase of Black Fashion Designers," all rules are broken. The show, sponsored by Canadian Mist, is held to benefit non-profit organizations that work in the black community. "Fashion for Mist Behavin'" visits seven cities during the 1988-89 season.

In 1987, the fashion show featured in Mobile and Birmingham, Alabama, where nearly \$20,000 was contributed to the Gulf Coast Chapter of the Sickle Cell Disease Association and the Birmingham Urban League.

This year, the show travels to six cities in addition to Winston-Salem: Jackson, Miss.; Birm-

ingham, Ala.; New Orleans, La.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Charlotte, N.C.; and Memphis, Tenn.

Additional designers featured in "Fashion for Mist Behavin'" are Barbara Bates, David Byrd, Danita Carter, Martin Elliott, Greg Gonzon, Keith Kendall, Carlos Lewis, Dexter Luroi, SPY, Faye Sowell, Eugene Stevens and Willie Smith.

Tickets for "Fashion for Mist Behavin'" are

\$10 per person. For more information, contact Omega Psi Phi at 725-1165.

Canadian Mist Whisky is the number one Canadian Whisky in America and the fourth-largest distilled spirit. It is produced and marketed by Brown-Forman Beverage Company, the consolidated wine and spirits division of Brown-Forman Corporation in Louisville, Kentucky.

Omega Psi Phi outlines pledging

By Keith James

Fraternities attract attention on all college campuses. How someone joins a fraternity is a process some don't understand.

Omega Psi Phi fraternity was founded by four individuals in 1911 at Howard University on Nov. 17. The founders were Dr. Earnest E. Just, Edgar E. Love, Oscar J. Cooper and Frank Coleman.

For those men interested in pledging Omega Psi Phi, the first step is to attend the interest meeting, according to one of the brothers. Then he must attend what is called a smoker, where he learns about the Cardinal Principles of the fraternity — manhood, scholarship, perseverance and uplift.

The third step is to attend a personal interview hosted by one of the brothers. During the personal interview, the young man being interviewed will find out whether or not he has "made line."

If he has made line, the pledging process begins. Pledging last four weeks. While on line, the pledges are

not allowed to walk on the grass, to eat sweets or to drink soda. Everyone on line has to be in by 11 p.m.

One thing that really confuses those involved with fraternities is the brand. Often referred to as "hits" by fraternity members, brands are burned into the skin with a hot clothes hanger molded into the design of two horseshoes.

The brother interviewed emphasized that brands are given only by choice.

Some outstanding athletes are brothers of Omega Psi Phi — former UNC-Chapel Hill standout Michael Jordan, who is now a member of the Chicago Bulls basketball team; Ed "Too Tall" Jones of the Dallas Cowboys; and Cedric Maxwell, a former forward with the Boston Celtics. Other famous brothers — known as "Q Dogs" — are Count Basie, the musician; poet Langston Hughes; and actor, writer, producer Bill Cosby.

Keith James is a senior majoring in mass communications.

Phi Beta Sigma helps during election

The Crescent Club of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. participated in the voting drive sponsored by the N.C. Democratic Party Nov. 8.

In Winston-Salem the drive's headquarters was at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Reynolds Park Road.

Fraternity members went door to door in various precincts asking registered Democrats to vote.

Phi Beta Sigma is a national fraternity with more than 85,000 members. The fraternity functions under basic high ideals: Brotherhood, Scholarship, and Service; and sponsors three national programs: Bigger and Better Business, Social Action, and Education. The project undertaken on Election day was a part of the Social Action program and is one of the requirements of Phi Beta Sigma's national pledge program.