

SPRING FASHION '84

Black Designers make stunning impact



NEW YORK, N.Y., -- More than 1,000 leaders of New York's Black and fashion communities paid homage February 16 to 12 designers honored at the Harveys Bristol Cream Tribute to the Black Designer '84. The gala affair was held in Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

The Tribute -- the sixth to honor the impact Blacks have made on American fashion -- was hosted by recording artists Ashford and Simpson, whose performance was a highlight of the event.

The honored designers, selected through a national screening process involving fashion editors of newspapers across the country, were: Willi Smith, Jeffrey Banks, Lepenski, Lester Hayatt, Jon Haggins, Arthur McGee, Di Willis and Ron

Chew of New York; Mark Anthony Pennywell of Pittsburgh; Angelo Gilmore of Detroit and Richard Fisher of Boston. A special award for excellence in jewelry design was given to the New York jewelry designer Bill Smith.

The Critics Panel responsible for the selection of the final complement of designers was comprised of Susan Taylor, editor of Essence Magazine; Vincent Boucher, fashion editor of Esquire Magazine and Joan O'Sullivan, lifestyles editor of King Features Syndicate.

At a glittering \$50-per-ticket, black-tie reception preceding the show, the Committee for Tribute '84 --social, business political and professional leaders of New York's Black community --

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Angelo Gilmore underlines the stark graphics of his black and white wool crepe chemise with a broad-shouldered silhouette that tapers to a narrow skirt.

Evening wear for spring was marked by strong color contrasts, bold silhouettes and sinuous draping. Jon Haggins adds back interest to this simple black and white silk crepe de chine chemise with a fluid cowl and asymmetrical flounce.

Bold fashion statements by designers are in black and white for spring. Richard Fisher puts his black-accented wool check swagger jacket over a crisp white shirt and black trousers.

Designers explore the many moods of evening for spring, from demure to dramatic. Less is definitely more in this seductive one-shoulder silk crepe-de-chine print dress from Jon Haggins.

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