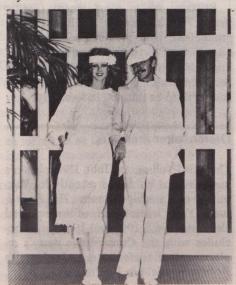
Spring styles soft and silky

The Fashion Designers Association of Canada held its Spring/Summer '78 Trend Shows in Montreal and Toronto early in October, boldly preceding the prestigious prêt-à-porter displays in Paris in an effort to create a truly Canadian fashion statement. If the pronouncements of the 20 full-fledged and 12 associates of the show are heeded, wardrobes for women will feature romantic, loose-fitting and delicate garments, reminiscent of Hollywood in the Thirties.



Synthetic materials, heavily-padded shoulders and sharp-edged tailored fashions, popular in the early days of the women's movement, have given way to flimsy fabrics and bare shoulders, marking the return to traditionally feminine styles.





Layers, pleats, ruffles, full sleeves - in gauzy cotton, silk, ultra-suede, linen and satin - are characteristic of Canadian styles this year; and muted, smoky shades with accents of lilac are given preference over the bright, metallic look of previous seasons.



The accompanying photos show styles modelled at Spring/Summer '78 Trend Shows, with the exception of Leo Chevalier's winter fashions on P. 7 shown in Yugoslavakia in September.







Serge Barbeau