

Line silhouette for spring-summer collection



“Gold by Michael H” range, modelled in front of *Liquid Hills* by artist Paul Swan at 2002 collection at the Bridge Gallery in Dublin. Photograph: Bryan O'Brien

Pretty in pastels is shape of things to come

By Gabrielle Williams

THE Irish Fashion Group, with more than two dozen members, will be showing at Futura Fair in the RDS from next Sunday to Tuesday.

This is the biannual event that fashion buyers swarm to see and, if the Irish group is anything to go by, they are in for some very pretty surprises for next spring and summer.

At a preview in the Bridge Gallery on Ormond Quay in Dublin, examples from each manufacturer were shown. And whether sporty, casual, classical or just plain glamorous, the style has shifted firmly towards the feminine.

Colours are of the softest — lilac, pale blue, jade and ivory holding their own against the more traditional khakis and black. Fabrics are featherweight, with some wonderful printed silk chiffon, georgette and organza.

Of course, there are linen and cotton, but even the practical is given interest by over-dyeing, embossing, embroidery and top-stitching.

The ubiquitous trouser suit may feature, but in white linen and given a fitted jacket and side-fastening, as in Regine's offering, it becomes sensuously feminine.

Irish manufacturers excel in dressy clothing: frilled dresses with matching jackets (Max Pierre, Lucinda Grey, John Bentley), and in those neat little suits that grace all weddings (Water Colours, Derek Duffy Designs and Michel Ambers).

Yasmin and Zen, however, are different. Yasmin is great fun, with young candy-striped jackets and trousers. Zen does interesting things with sand-blasted two-tone jeans.

With some exceptions, most Irish clothing manufacturers have their designs made abroad, in eastern Europe and the Far East.

We will increasingly see labels saying “Designed in Ireland” rather than made in Ireland.

But wherever the clothes are coming from the Irish Group is offering very high quality.

front blossom

thy, president of the Festival of Kerry, said. For the most part, they are to bed early each night completely of their own ac-

the first time, the festival included a “Rós Fodhla”, Irish-speaking Rose. Ms Marie Leathlobhair is a primary teacher from Ballyheigue who Kerry and teaches at a scoil in Cork. Yesterday, after the traditional visit to the town's hospital it was hair-dos and make-up for the 14 Roses for part one of the RTÉ show with interviewer Marty Whelan. The sunshine and the packed programme are combining to create “a very special festival atmosphere” this year, say organisers.

Limerick councillor on assault charge

AN Independent member of Limerick City Council appeared before a special sitting of Limerick District Court yesterday on a charge of assaulting a woman

Before the court was Alderman Michael Kelly, of Ballinagarde, Ballyneety, Co Limerick, who was charged with assaulting the woman causing her harm on August 26th, 2001, contrary to Section 3 of the Non-Fatal Offences Against the Persons Act, 1997.

He was charged that on the same date he contravened a protection order made at Limerick District Court on August 24th, contrary to Section 17 (1) of

the Domestic Violence Act, 1996.

Garda Tracey Corcoran, Roxboro station, said she arrested the defendant yesterday at the station. Mr Kelly, who was not represented in court, told Judge Leo Malone he had no knowledge of a protection order and it was only given to him in court.

He said he went to Roxboro Garda station of his own free will.

Insp Jim Browne asked that Mr Kelly be remanded in custody until August 29th.

Asking for bail, Mr Kelly said he was a member of Limerick City Council and “my whole life depends on this.” He was remanded in custody until August 29th.

By Dick in Mallon THE Irish world Cork Race where mode from 40 cc part. The team placed to be ing when the weekend. The competi under the agi the Model Aero of Ireland. According to M rish team of Noel eane and Barry om Cork, are plac tters the final stage The reigning world ristophe Paysant l from the to the 103 “Flyers” at

flower, a decision about this in department of school Mr Bush sending a lower-level to participate