



Fashions by Stanley Carroll



Innovation

The trompe-l'oeil effect

By S. McINTYRE

Stanley Carroll is a name well-known in Edmonton's fashion circle and growing rapidly in recognition across Canada.

Stanley has been designing for an enthusiastic Edmonton audience since Spring 1983, but his interest in fashion was sparked much earlier in Holland. He was born in IJsselstein (u), Holland, it was his mother who exposed him to the world of fashion. "I was always around fashion during my childhood. Many of my mother's friends were designers or wives of designers, so fashion became a regular part of my life very early on," Stanley explains. After his family relocated to

Canada, Stanley became involved in fashion merchandising and eventually evolved into designing the garments himself. Stanley Carroll Designs are contemporary and innovative - a result of extensive European travels on a regular basis and of individual ingenuity. Stanley explains, "I do my designing while living in Europe to keep my fashions fresh, contemporary and unique for the Canadian market. I'll be overseas late this fall to start working on my Spring/Summer 1985 Collection."

A trompe-l'oeil is the effect of the 1984 Fall/Winter Collection, available in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Toronto. At first regard, the clothes are

simply wearable and modern fashions - closer scrutiny, however, reveals the unconventional details that make Stanley Carroll Designs unique. An exquisitely tailored man's suit reveals pockets draped on the outside; a vest transforms into a sleeveless ankle-length duster; coats take on an architectural significance. Stanley Carroll has not included these details by accident; "I hope my designs raise questions and eyebrows. Other than the obvious personal pleasures of wearing fashions, there are also indirect personal effects that interest me - whether it's how people look at you on the street, the first impression your image gives or the way you adapt your attitudes

with changing styles - I consider all of these factors when I design."

Carroll works with "making people look good in mind" too. His eye for detail and careful selection of fabric combine in fashions that both look and feel great. Plaid-on-plaid combinations excite the eye, clashes of vibrant colour dazzle, and soft fabric drapes and wraps in long, comfortable folds. His unconventional approach to sophisticated city fashion results in clothes that people love to wear and be noticed in. Carroll is relocating his design studio to Toronto this fall. This innovative local designer is moving forward into a promising future.