

Spring Fashions '97

Fashions are now figure flattering

With different patterns, prints and styles of clothing, women can make themselves look slimmer, says one women's clothing store manager.

"Fashion looks have become more streamline and figure flattering," says Karen Piper, manager of Peppertree Classics in Markham.

Short or long A-line skirts and empire waistline dresses are flattering for women with big hips because they

don't cling, she says. Which is why heavier women should avoid clothing with large florals and checks and horizontal stripes.

"(Horizontal stripes) make women look larger," it emphasizes width.

Navy blue and black are slimming colors, but can be accented with '97 colors like kiwi green, tangerine orange, sunflower yellow, surf blue and other bright tones, she says.

Other body types

• Shorter women should wear vertical strips to make them look taller.

• Small-busted women should wear fitted t-shirts because they doesn't accentuate the chest.

• Fitted t-shirts on larger-busted women will accentuate the chest, but when worn with a vest won't show as much, says Piper.



Photo by Stan Kiblicky of Photoblitz Kodak Image Centre

Jeff Craig of Fashion Revival For Men models a natural color jacket.

Natural colors and fabrics are popular for men this year.

Three and four button jackets in beiges, taupes, tans and other earthy colors are popular for spring, says Jeff Craig, manager of Fashion Revival For Men in Markham. As well, more vests will be seen in men's closets over the next season, becoming very popular by fall.

"The big difference (from last year) is there will be more brightness in neckwear," says Craig. Ties will have oranges, greens and more pastel shades in them. Clothing is being made out of natural fabrics like silk, fine wools, linens and cool cottons.

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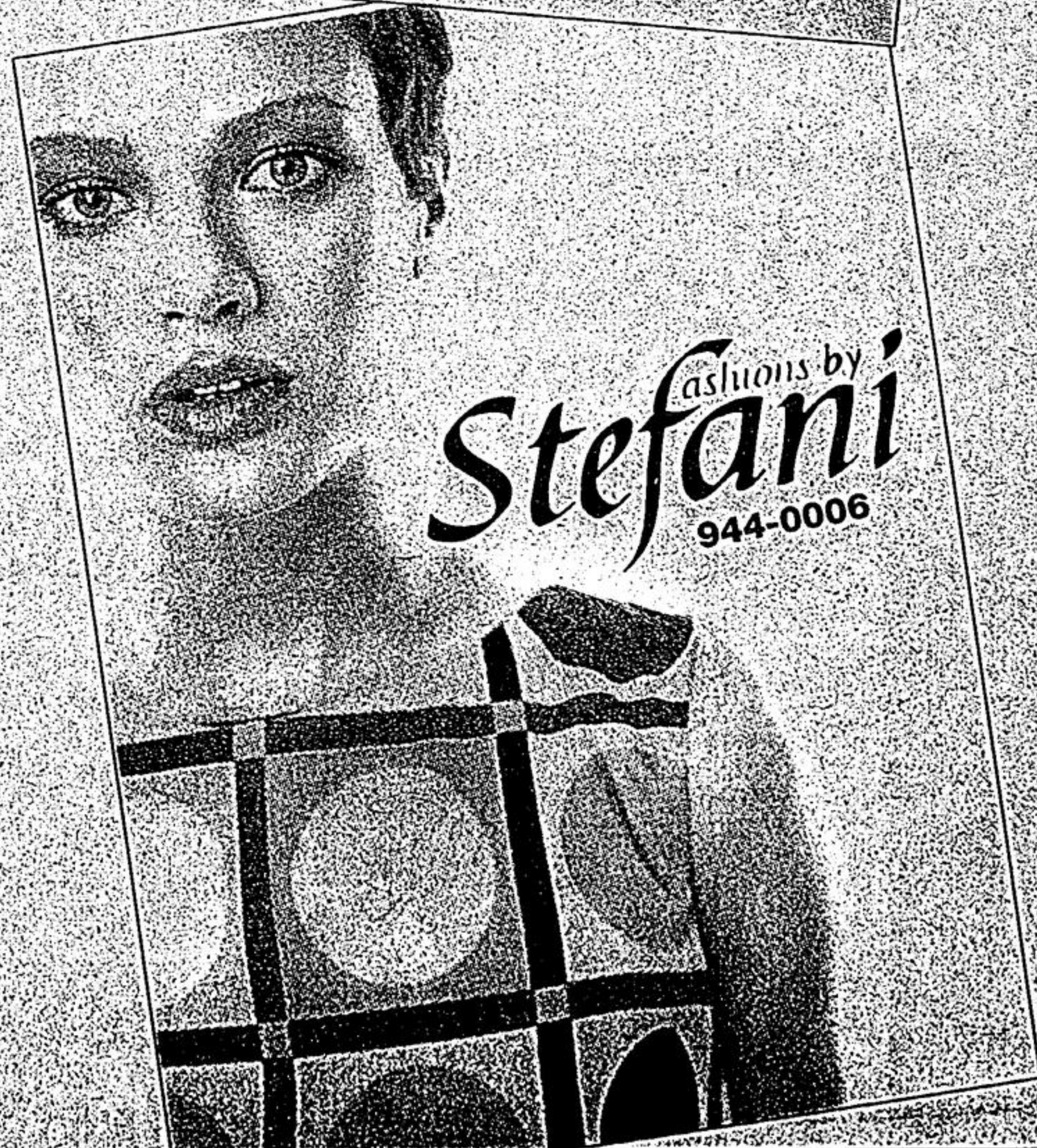
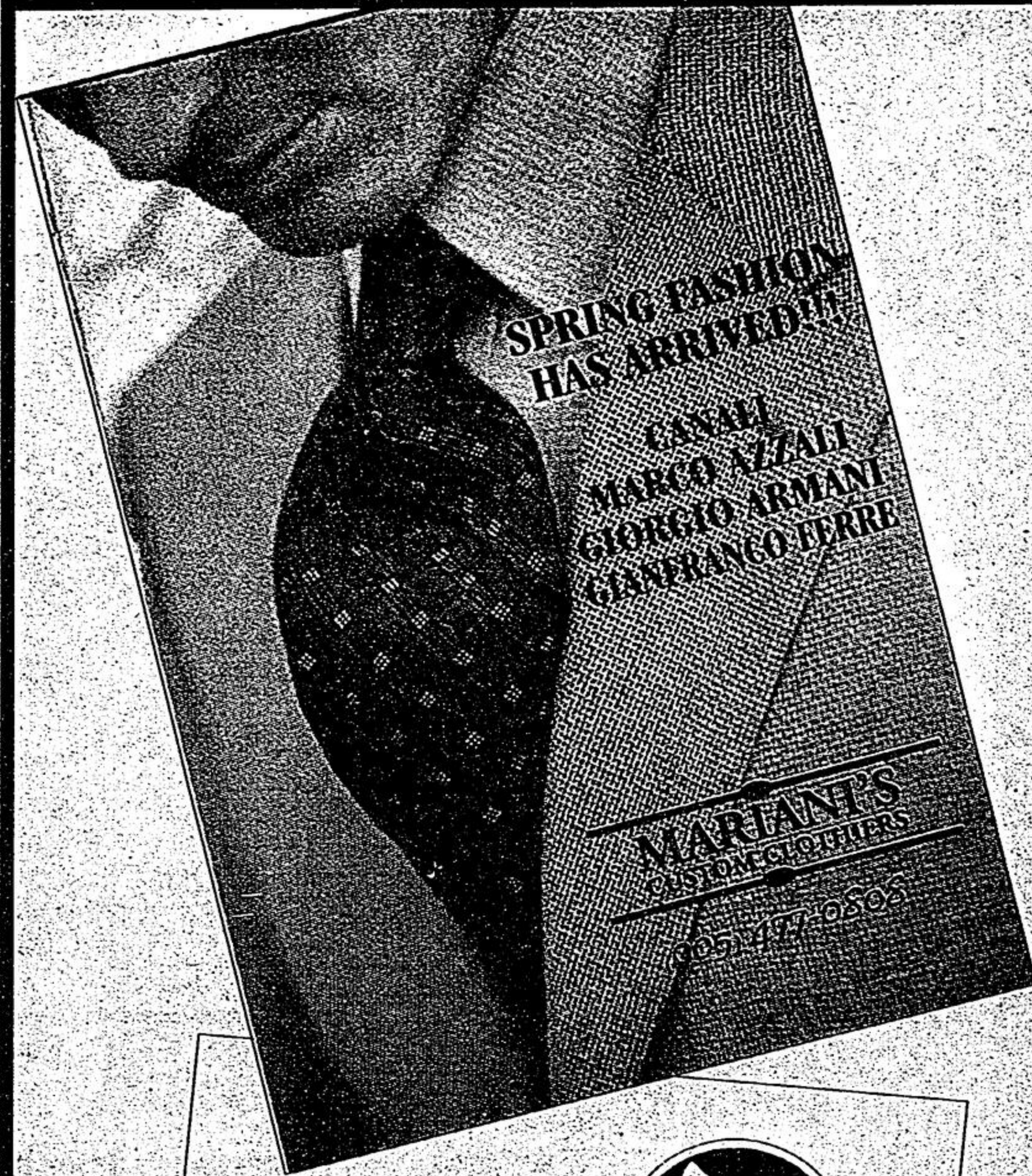
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