

IMAGINATION

HOME SHOW SUN-NY

Ryerson stars shine

A breath of spring blew through the *Sun's* Lifestyle Theatre at the Home Show on the weekend.

Ryerson School of Fashion and *Sun* fashion editor Valerie Gibson presented Ryerson's 'Stars' — a group of grads from the fashion program who are already successful in the Canadian fashion field.

Showing some of their spring lines were Steven Schacht (right), Mekito, Brian Bailey, Suzanne Fratschko Elliott for Edith Strauss (below), Michael Tong and Lida Baday.

- valerie gibson



- bill sandford, sun



- bill sandford, sun

Fantastic fashions courtesy of grads

By Paul Cowley

Toronto is still mired deep in winter but visitors to the Metro Home Show got their first breath of spring as Ryerson fashion students produced a show highlighting the latest in spring wear last Saturday.

The show was put together by third-year retail management students in Ryerson's fashion program. The show ran twice before large audiences in a theatre at the Metro Convention Centre and featured the work of some of Ryerson's fashion stars.

The designers, all Ryerson graduates, included Steven Schacht, who has designed clothes for Carole Pope and now has his own label. Other designers included Brian Bailey, Michael Tong, Mekito and Susan Fratschko-Elliott for Edith Strauss. Another young designer, Lida Baday, has had her own label since last year.

The fashion students didn't know they were going to do the show until after Christmas, said co-ordinator Ingrid Johnson. The Toronto *Sun* proposed they do a show for the Metro Home show, which the paper was sponsoring. That left the students only a couple of weeks to put everything together.

In the little time they had, designers had to be found, pic-

tures and music chosen and everything choreographed, said Johnson. The schedule was so tight they did not even have the time to do a full dress rehearsal, she said.

Also, the production staff were all volunteers, Johnson said. The show was not a school project and they were expected to keep up with their school work.

Overall, Johnson said, the show ran fairly smoothly.

"It's been a bit hectic, but I think for the short amount of time we've had, we've done a pretty good job," she said.

Director Mary Ellen Toutant said creating the show was a valuable experience. As director she organized every step of the production, directing the production staff as well as more than twenty models. Toutant admits it was a difficult job.

"It's hard getting (the models) changed and getting them out there," she said as she relaxed backstage after the first show.

Unfortunately, Toutant could not even see her own show. She was too busy backstage giving the cues to the lighting and sound technicians through her headset.

Johnson said that she thought the show's success "looks good on Ryerson."

"I think everyone was quite impressed by it," Johnson said.



EYEPHOTO: Robert Carter

A breath of spring: Ryerson's third-year retail management students organized a fashion show featuring such fabulous creations which appeared at the Metro Convention Centre.