

# Music inspires designer

Staff Reporter

"MY aim is no longer to work myself to a standstill in order to prove myself. My designs and creations have done it for me. All I want now is to do what I am doing and do it properly."

This is the wish of Errol Arendz, a prominent designer, rated among the top five in South Africa. He also enjoys international recognition.

In an exclusive interview Errol told *The Cheet* that beautiful music and excessive reading inspire his creativity.

"Beautiful music does something for me. A whole new world unfolds when I am listening to good music.

## Trends

"I design clothes for women from all walks of life including aristocrats, ordinary, glamorous, as well as sophisticated ones. To be able to cater for everyone's needs and requirements I would have to be informed about trends abroad," he said.

However, instead of travelling often Errol said he reads extensively. His designs were sometimes influenced by the ideas of other people but he retains his originality.

## Exclusive

"Each of my designs is an

exclusive creation. As a designer I should know exactly what kind of people visit certain places and what kind of company they keep.

"When a client says she's going to the Met or Las Calas, or maybe clubbing at the Hippo Drome I should be able to dress her appropriately and design accordingly," he said.

Errol has high regard for the dress sense of the South African woman. In his opinion our women stood on par with their French, British and American counterparts.

"Our cities are fast moving and modern and some women travel extensively. Some of the ones I work for spend their holidays in the south of France, shop for shoes in Italy, purchase their coats in London and buy their evening dresses from me.

## No difference

"There is no difference in terms of what we as South Africans wear in comparison with people in cities such as Paris, London and New York," he said.

Asked how he visualised today's models, Errol said that modelling, like fashion, changes like the seasons.

"The very thin and raky model is not in fashion any

longer. Today a model works it out in the gym. They work hard to achieve a fresh and intelligent appearance.

"The dumb-beauty image of the 1970s is not applicable to

the model of the future.

"The model of the future has to be rounded off, and well polished in terms of an intelligent mind, attractive face and healthy appearance," he said.



Errol Arendz, top Cape Town designer.