

Fashion Notes

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At 93, Erté's Birthday Surprise

Some celebrate birthdays by buying themselves something special, a piece of jewelry or a luxurious sweater. Artist Erté, never one to miss a commercial opportunity, celebrated his 93rd birthday by introducing a collection of knitwear. Each is based on something from his seven decades of Art Deco designs, cut full and easy in wool and enhanced with a design in embroidery of silk or beading. Each comes with a certificate signed by Erté and a price tag of \$250 for a hat and \$2,450 for a cape. According to Magnifrance Ltd., makers of the knitwear, there will be 1,000 sweaters produced from each of 12 designs, all carrying his signature as a label, all to be sold through galleries.



Artist Erté, above, wearing a brown V-neck sweater called "Automne," with a model wearing one of his limited-edition sweaters. Based on seven decades of Art Deco design, the sweaters are elaborately decorated with embroidery, silk or