

# "Harmony" Gowns for Opera or Play

**L**ADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucile" of London, and foremost creator of fashions in the world, writes each week the fashion article for this newspaper, presenting all that is newest and best in styles for well-dressed women.

Lady Duff-Gordon's Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.

Lady Duff-Gordon's American establishments are at Nos. 37 and 39 West Fifty-seventh street, New York, and No. 1400 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago.

A Charming Coat of Ermine and Black Fox "Lucile" Model



By Lady Duff-Gordon ("LUCILE")

I HAVE always urged harmony in gowns, not only so far as the woman herself is concerned, but also for where she wears them. In my scheme of things there is no place for disharmonies, and a woman and her dress should fit in as much in one place as in another. But perhaps the one place where woman should be most harmonious with her surroundings is at the opera or the play.

I mean that the spirit of the opera or the play should be considered by a woman in choosing the dress for that particular occasion. There should be a harmony on both sides of the footlights. How much the creation of such an atmosphere would enhance the artistry and the enjoyment of the whole production! And it also makes a woman feel "more comfortable in herself." How incongruous it is to go to a tragedy—I never

A Wonderful Gown of Peacock Blue Trimmed With Gold Lace. The Sash Is of Ornamental Brocade. Many Colors Make It Gorgeous "Lucile" Model

do, but I can imagine—and see all around us stuffy, gaily dressed people! And how depressing to go to a real blithesome, jolly "show" and be surrounded by people whose clothes radiate either soberness or tenuous things! If a woman goes to see "Aida," for instance, there should be something of Egypt in her dress. If she goes to see "Amore del Tre Re," there should be a suggestion of the Mediaeval. You see what I mean?

This large figure, for instance, is a harmony gown that comes within my meaning. It is of peacock blue, trimmed with gold lace. The sash is an Oriental colored brocade, and the coatee is made of the same, lined with peacock green satin. Skunk fur edges the sleeves of this coat, also the neck of the waist. The sleeves of the waist are transparent, being trimmed with hemstitched bands of blue, green

and scarlet. Touches of red, emerald green and citron are in the tassels. The headdress is a band of Oriental colors in all shades of reds and blues and yellows and greens.

And here also are some evening coats which also illustrates my meaning. The beautiful coat in the lower left-hand corner of the page is of ermine, trimmed with black fox. Ermine tails edge the collar all the way around, as well as the bottom of the coat. Such a coat is a wonderful garment to wear to some clever comedy of manners—for, of course, coats should be as harmonious as dresses.

The third picture shows a coat of sapphire-blue satin, lined with green blue, and has sleeves in a green-blue and emerald-green and silver brocade. The cuffs and collar have bands of Jeannette fur, and the long ties in the front are of the same brocade as in the sleeves,

trimmed with yellow and red. The headdress worn with this is a band of diamonds, with huge French embroidered tassels in real coral and diamonds.

As you will judge from these pictures, I am particularly interested in headdresses. Whenever I create an evening gown I instinctively design an ornament for the coiffure which should be worn with that gown. And here my sense of the harmonies is of great value. Never, for instance, would I design a Greek flit to be worn with an Egyptian gown. Never should an Oriental headdress, all jewels and hammered metals, be worn with an ingenue frock. And never should a sumptuous evening costume be topped by a simple bandeau, such as the sweet young debutante might wear with a simple tulle dress. The tiara, which is really the modern hair ornament, should only be worn with one of the expensive ultra-modern gowns of the moment. Thus will harmony reign.

A Many-Colored Coat on the New Lines, and a New Headdress "Lucile" Model

