

# Press Release

**For immediate publication**

**June 29, 2007**

John Warden, a leading Canadian fashion designer of international fame, passed away peacefully this evening at the age of 67 at the Mount Sinai Hospital in Montreal, following a long and courageous battle with cancer.

His son, Marc-Steven, his brother, Arnold, and other close family members were at his side. He also leaves to mourn his three grand-children, Audrey, Émilie and Wiliam, his daughter-in-law, Lisabelle and his niece and nephews, Laura Lyn, Jeffrey and Trevor.

Nicknamed "l'enfant terrible de la mode" by the Canadian press, John Warden made his mark in the fashion world by his timeless prêt-à-porter collections. In 1966 he created a "pilot" collection for the boutique "Le Château". The look was modern, young and dynamic.

In 1967, he designed the uniforms for Expo 67 and then, in 1976, along with three other Quebec designers, created the uniforms for the Olympics Games held in Montreal. In 1977, he designed Ivana Trump's wedding dress. Then in 1978, along with Yves Saint Laurent, he received the prestigious "Designer of the World" award.

In 1983, he received the "Canadian Designer of the Year" award. The same year he was honoured by the Prime Minister of Canada, Pierre Elliott Trudeau and by Queen Elizabeth II, and received the "Fashion Award". He also received a special tribute for his contribution to the fashion industry in Quebec.

John Warden owned boutiques on Crescent and Bishop streets until 1991. Dominique Michel, Denise Filiatrault, Margaret Trudeau, Andrée Lachapelle, Louise Marleau, Ginette Gadoury, Electa McMaster and many other famous customers from the arts, fashion and politics wore his creations.

Not only were his boutiques phenomenally successful, but his creations were displayed in major Canadian stores in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. A favourite of the press, Canadian fashion magazines frequently featured his designs.

After 1991, he made the decision to move his business to St. Kitts, an island in the Antilles. His clientele came from all over the world to see him there. His collections were available at his boutique on Pelican Drive, and were also featured in many of the luxury hotels in the Caribbean.

In August 2006, several hundred people paid homage to him at a benefit event held at Ogilvy in downtown Montreal.

As his health deteriorated, John Warden made the decision to move back to Montreal in March 2007.

A private funeral will be held this summer followed by a fashion event in his memory in the fall.

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