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One-Stop Shopping For The Chupah-Bound

From wedding gowns to wigs, Jewish bridal fair for Orthodox draws more than 400 to Brooklyn banquet hall.

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Martha Mendelsohn | Special To The Jewish Week

“ in observance of Jewish time, professional models swanned down the runway in gowns from Aliza’s Bridal Boutique in Crown Heights. (AlizasBridal.com).

“Champagne netting over satin”... “Finely ruched chiffon waistband”... “Cascading layers of tulle over taffeta,” went Kaufman’s expert catwalk spiel.

Most of the gowns had high necklines and three-quarter-length sleeves. But, except for one multi-flounced ante-bellum gown, from the waist down, they showed “sleek lines that accentuate the figure,” Kaufman said.

Did these shapely silhouettes hug the body perhaps a tad too tightly?

“It’s OK. They’re not skin-tight because there’s so much fabric,” said Avraham Schmalberg, who works with his mother Aliza Schmalberg, owner of the boutique. “If they’re loose, it wouldn’t look right.”

Schmalberg, 24, was, as of the date of the expo, unattached. With so many pre-engaged women on the premises, was he tempted to alter his status?

He shrugged. “I’ll get married — eventually. I have to find the right girl.”