

2013

Peer Gynt Costume Illustration Collection

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Guide to Peer Gynt Costume Illustration Collection MSS.2012.01.17

Finding aid prepared by Processed by Xiaoda Wang



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5/28/13

Title: *Peer Gynt* Costume Illustration Collection

Identifier/Call Number: MSS.2012.01.17

Contributing Institution: SJSU Special Collections & Archives

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 1.25 Linear feet 1 box

Date: 1937

Abstract: This collection is comprised of 43 original costume illustrations used for the San Jose State College production of Henrik Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*, which was presented during the college's Diamond Jubilee on May 21st, 1937. These costume designs were produced by students in San Jose State College's Art 87B Illustration course during Spring semester of 1937. The color illustrations depict either an individual or group of characters wearing their costumes. The figures are often posed in a state of action that corresponds to their role in the play. The majority of the sketches have extensive handwritten notes regarding fabric, color preferences, types of footwear and headgear, and other accessories. Some sketches include attached swatch of fabric. Most illustrations bare the designer's signature.

Physical Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

creator: San Jose State College Art 87B (Spring 1937).

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

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Processing Information note

Collection processed by Xiaoda Wang. Finding aid created using Archivists' Toolkit. Reviewed by Danelle Moon.

Organizational/Biographical History

The collection of original costume sketches were designed by students in San Jose State College Art 87B Illustration class for the college's inter-departmental production of Henrik Ibsen's drama *Peer Gynt*, which was presented at San Jose's Civic Auditorium on May 21st 1937. The production was part of San Jose State College's Diamond Jubilee celebration (May 20th-22nd) in honor of the institution's 75th birthday. The three-day program formally commenced on May 20th with the Phelan award program, which featured a keynote speech from Lloyd C. Douglas, author of "The Magnificent Obsession" and other best sellers. Some of other highlights include a concert at the Civic Auditorium on May 20th that features the San Jose State College symphony orchestra with guest conductor Rudolph Ganz, as well as the Jubilee Ball on May 22nd to end the festivities. In addition to various distinguished visitors to the celebration, President Franklin D. Roosevelt sent a congratulatory message, and Governor Frank M. Merriam delivered an address of recognition.

Peer Gynt is a play written in 1867 by Norwegian dramatist Henrik Ibsen (1828-1906). It is a blend of folkloric fantasy and social satire that centers on the title role who constantly compromises his moral judgments on instances of controversy in order to avoid the hardships of life. The structure of the play is divided into five acts, which chronicles *Peer Gynt's* journey from the Norwegian mountains to the North African desert and introduces a mixture of fantastic and realistic supporting characters. Hugh Gillis, San Jose State College dramatic head, was responsible for directing the production. The production featured a cast of 128 actors, 22 dancers from the college Orchesis Society, and a 100-piece college symphony orchestra to play the accompanying score composed by Ibsen's compatriot Edvard Grieg (1843-1907).

The production's costume illustration team consisted of students from Art 87B Illustration course for Spring, 1937: Elizabeth Jordan Ruth MacQuarrie, Kay Bryant, Charles Atlas, Margaret Clark, Evelina Lovelday, Franklyn Murch, Georgianna Kann, Virginia Blewett, Joe Rapose, Marvin Olsen, Stanley Temple. The course was taught by Elizabeth Jordan. The purpose of the course was to teach students "rendering and the techniques of commercial reproduction, fashion drawing, story illustration."

Bibliography

Diamond Jubilee Scrapbook 2 and 3. San José State University Scrapbook Collection, MSS-2010-03-04, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Gilbert, Benjamin F., and Burdick, Charles. *Washington Square, 1857-1979: The History of San Jose State University*. [San Jose, CA: San Jose State University, 1980].

Gilbert, Benjamin F. *Pioneers for One Hundred Years: San Jose State College, 1857-1957*. San Jose, CA: San Jose State College, 1957.

San José State College. *Circular of Information and Announcement of Courses for the Seventy-ninth Year of the College, 1936-1937*. San José: San José State College, 1936.

Scope and Content of Collection

This collection is comprised of 43 original costume illustrations used for the San Jose State College production of Henrik Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*, which was presented during the college's Diamond Jubilee on May 21st, 1937. These costume designs were produced by students in San Jose State College's Art 87B Illustration course during Spring semester of 1937. The color illustrations depict either an individual or group of characters wearing their costumes. The figures are often posed in a state of action that corresponds to their role in the play. The majority of the sketches have extensive handwritten notes regarding fabric, color preferences, types of footwear and headgear, and other accessories. Some sketches include attached swatch of fabric. Most illustrations bare the designer's signature.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into one series: I. *Peer Gynt* Costume Illustrations, 1937.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Ibsen, Henrik, 1828-1906

Costume design

Education -- California -- San José

San José State University -- History

State Normal School (San Jose, Calif.) -- History

Series I: *Peer Gynt* Costume Illustrations, 1937

Language of Material: English

Scope and Content of Collection

This collection is comprised of 43 original costume illustrations used for the San Jose State College production of Henrik Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*.

Arrangement

The costume illustrations are arranged alphabetically.

Folder 1: 2 Intro Boards by F. Murch, 1937

Folder 2: Anitra by E. McQuarrie, 1937

Folder 3: Anitra, Bedouin Dancer by E. MacQuarrie, 1937

Folder 4: Anitra (cape) by E. McQuarrie, 1937

Folder 5: Arabian Thieves by F. Murch, 1937

Folder 6: Ase by V. Blewett, 1937

Folder 7: Bedouin Dancer by V. Blewett, 1937

Folder 8: 3 Bedouin Girls by E. McQuarrie, 1937

Folder 9: Boy Dancer by E. McQuarrie, 1937

Folder 10: Bridegroom's Mother by E. Loveladay, 1937

Folder 11: Fellaah or Mad Man by E. McQuarrie, 1937

Folder 12: Fiddler 1, Peasant 2, Cook 1 by K. Bryant, 1937

Folder 13: Four Young Boys by G. Kann, 1937

Folder 14: Four Young Girls by G. Kann, 1937

Folder 15: Green Clad Woman by E. McQuarrie, 1937

Folder 16: Ingrid's Wedding Dress by G. Kann, 1937

Folder 17: Insane Women by V. Blewett, 1937

Folder 18: Insane Woman by S. Temple, 1937

Folder 19: Men Dancers by S. Temple, 1937

- Folder 20: Peasant Girl by E. Lovelday, 1937**
- Folder 21: Peasant Girls by E. Lovelday, 1937**
- Folder 22: The Pen by E. McQuarrie, 1937**
- Folder 23: Satyre Girl by E. McQuarrie, 1937**
- Folder 24: Solvig after the Wedding by M. Clark, 1937**
- Folder 25: Solvig at the Wedding; Solvig as an Elderly Lady by S. Temple, 1937**
- Folder 26: Solvig at the Wedding, 1937**
- Folder 27: Solvig in Middle Age by S. Temple, 1937**
- Folder 28: Solvig's Costumes: at Home 10 Years Later; at The Wedding; as an Elderly Woman by M. Clark, 1937**
- Folder 29: Solvig's Mother by E. Lovelday, 1937**
- Folder 30: Son of the Green Clad Woman by C. Atlas, 1937**
- Folder 31: The Sultan by E. McQuarrie, 1937**
- Folder 32: The Sultan by F. Murch, 1937**
- Folder 33: Troll Courtiers by C. Atlas, 1937**
- Folder 34: The Troll King by C. Atlas, 1937**
- Folder 35: The Troll King by E. McQuarrie, 1937**
- Folder 36: Unnamed Character [Troll?] by E. McQuarrie, 1937**
- Folder 37: The Witch by C. Atlas, 1937**
- Folder 38: Woman in Green: Young Tree; Old Tree, 1937**
- Folder 39: (Young) Woman in Green by E. McQuarrie, 1937**