Oregon Shakespeare Festival

ARCHIVES DIVISION

Costume Department Records, 1937-

Collection Number M0012
The processing of this collection was made possible by a grant from the
National Historical Publications & Records Commission
Collection Number: M0012

Title: Costume Department Records

Dates: 1937- (bulk after 1970)

Creator: Oregon Shakespeare Festival Costume Shop

Summary/Abstract: Consists of costume bibles and several costumes from Oregon Shakespeare Festival productions.

Summary/Physical Description: 32 c.f. (57 boxes, 4 oversize folders)

Repository: Oregon Shakespeare Festival Archives; Ashland, OR.

Restrictions on Access: There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use: Copyright restrictions apply. Unpublished documents are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Preferred Citation: Box Number, Folder Number, M0012 Costume Department Records, Oregon Shakespeare Festival Archives.

Acquisition: Primarily from the Costume Shop Manager. New materials are generally added after the end of a season. We have no information on the acquisition of the costumes.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements: Costumes are wrapped in tissue, and require delicate handling. Costume bibles contain fabric swatches which may be attached to paper with stickpins.

Related Material: M0002 Prompt Book Collection, M0003 Frances Schilling Papers, M0006 Dorothy Lee Chase Scrapbook, M0013 Jeannie Davidson Papers, P0001 Photograph Collection, M0018 OSF Portland Records.

Processed by: Reference and Records Archivist Debra Griffith, 2011

Arrangement: Chronological.

Biographical/Historical Note: Since the beginning of the Festival in 1935 there has been a Costume Shop. In the early days, this consisted of various women from the City of Ashland under the direction of Lois Bowmer. Costumes were constructed out of available materials such as curtains, tablecloths, long underwear, and scrap fabric. In the 1940 season, a backstage fire destroyed most of the costumes, and that evenings’ production started out in modern dress as the women of the shop worked to replace the costumes. The scrapbooks listed in ‘related materials’
contain information on the fire, and photos of the costumes, Lois Bowmer, and the costume crew.

Now known as the Costume Department, the department has had a somewhat fluid structure over the years. The Head Designer may or may not have been the head of the shop/department at any one time. The only Head Designer for which we have textual material beyond the costume bibles is Jeannie Davidson. As the Costume Shop evolved, it became more formalized, and the position of designer was separated from management of the Costume Shop. A Costume Designer is no longer responsible for all shows, but rather a few each season, and construction crews are assigned to specific shows.


The 2008 inaugural Richard L. Hay Fellowship was in Costume Design.

**Scope and Content:** There are two series in this collection: COSTUME BIBLES and COSTUMES. The bulk of this collection is from the dates 1970-2009, and materials are added to the COSTUME BIBLES series at the end of each season. Some materials are oversized, and are stored in the OS cabinets.

The series COSTUME BIBLES contains drawings, fabric samples, and in some cases character notes, dyeing instructions, photo tests, and sizing information for Oregon Shakespeare Festival productions. The sketches are mainly photocopies of original drawings that remain in the designers’ care.

The COSTUMES series includes six surviving costumes from the early days of the Festival. Not all of the costumes have identifying information. The Costume Shop reuses materials, and the Festival runs a costume rental business, so it is unlikely that the COSTUME series will be added to in the future.

The business records for the Costume Shop while under the management of Jeannie Davidson are contained in the Jeannie Davidson Papers (M0013).

Not all productions are represented in this collection. Some costuming information may be found in the production Prompt Books (M0002). There is no specific costuming information before 1970, though the Photograph Collection (especially the production photographs) may be consulted. The Bibles for the 2011 *Pirates of Penzance*, and 2012 *All The Way* and *The White Snake* are not in the collection. They have been retained by the Costume Shop for traveling productions, and may never come to the Archives.
In 1988, a branch of the Festival was opened in Portland, first as Portland Center Stage, then OSF Portland, and eventually spun off in 1995 as Portland Center Stage. The Costume Bibles for those productions may be found in the OSF Portland records.

**Subject Terms:**

Bowmer, Lois Muzzall  
Davidson, Jeannie S.  
Dryden, Deborah M.  
Russell, Douglas A.  
Smith-McNamara, Christine  
Oregon Shakespeare Festival  
Oregon Shakespearean Festival  
Costume design  
Costume shop

**Collection Inventory**

**Series I: COSTUME BIBLES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1970-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1977-1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1978</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1   | *The Taming of the Shrew*  
| 1   | *Tartuffe*  |
| 1   | 1980 *Coriolanus*  
| 1984|             |
| 1   | *Henry VIII*  
| 3   | *The Taming of the Shrew*  
| OS2, D3 | *The Taming of the Shrew*  
| OS2, D3 | *Troilus and Cressida*  
| 1985|             |
| 1   | *King Lear*  
| 1   | *The Merchant of Venice*  
| 4   | *Trelawny of the ‘Wells’*  
| 1986|             |
| 4   | *The Tempest*  
| 2   | *Three Sisters*  
| 2   | *Titus Andronicus*  
| 1987|             |
| 2   | *The Hostage*  
| 5   | *Macbeth*  
| 5   | *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*  
| 5   | *Richard II*  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Plays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1988 | She Stoops to Conquer  
The Shoemaker’s Holiday  
Boy Meets Girl  
Henry IV, Part 1  
The Iceman Cometh  
The Marriage of Bette and Boo  
Penny for a Song  
Romeo and Juliet  
Twelfth Night |
| 1989 | Breaking the Silence  
Cyrano de Bergerac  
Henry IV, Part 2  
Hunting Cockroaches  
Much Ado About Nothing  
The Road to Mecca  
The Two Gentlemen of Verona |
| 1992 | The Firebugs  
Heathen Valley  
The Conclusion of Henry VI  
The Playboy of the Western World  
Major Barbara |
| 1993 | Antony and Cleopatra  
A Flea in her Ear  
A Midsummer Night’s Dream  
Richard III |
| 1994 | The Colored Museum  
Fifth of July  
Hamlet,  
Much Ado About Nothing  
The Rehearsal  
The Pool of Bethesda  
Tales of the Lost Formicans  
The Tempest  
The Two Noble Kinsmen  
You Can’t Take It with You |
| 1995 | Blood Wedding  
The Cure at Troy  
Emma’s Child  
Macbeth |
13  The Merry Wives of Windsor  
13  From the Mississippi Delta  
14  The Skin of Our Teeth  
14  This Day and Age  
14  Twelfth Night  

1996  
14  Arcadia  
15  Awake and Sing!  
15  Cabaret Verboten  
15  Coriolanus  
15-16  The Darker Face of the Earth  
16  Molière Plays Paris  
16  A Pair of Threes  
16  Strindberg in Hollywood  
16  The Winter’s Tale  
OS2, D3  

1997  
16-17  As You Like It  
17  Death of a Salesman  
17  Rough Crossing  
18  Timon of Athens  
18  The Turn of the Screw  

1998  
18  The Comedy of Errors  
18-19  Cymbeline  
19  Les Blancs  
19  A Midsummer Night’s Dream  
19  Sailing to Byzantium  
20  The School for Scandal  
21  A Touch of the Poet  
20  Twelfth Night  
21  Uncle Vanya  
21  Vilna’s Got a Golem  

1999  
22  Chicago  
22  El Paso Blue  
22-23  The Good Person of Szechuan  
23  Green Show  
23  Henry IV, Part 2  
24  Much Ado About Nothing  
24  Othello  
24-25  Pericles  
25  Rosmersholm  
25  Seven Guitars  
26  The Three Musketeers  
25  Tongue of a Bird
2000
26  Crumbs from the Table of Joy
27  Force of Nature
27  Green Show
27-28  Hamlet
28  Henry V
28-29  The Man Who Came to Dinner
29  Night of the Iguana
29  Stop Kiss
29-30  The Taming of the Shrew
30  The Trojan Women
30  Twelfth Night
30  Wit

2001
31  Life is a Dream
31  The Merchant of Venice
31  The Merry Wives of Windsor
31  Oo-Bla-Dee
31  The Tempest
32  Three Sisters
32  The Trip to Bountiful
32  Troilus and Cressida
32  Two Sisters and a Piano

2002
32  As You Like It
32  Green Show
32  Handler
32  Julius Caesar
33  Macbeth
33  Noises Off
33  The Playboy of the West Indies
33  Saturday, Sunday, Monday
33  Titus Andronicus
33  Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?
33  The Winter’s Tale

2003
33  Antony and Cleopatra
33  Hedda Gabler
33  Lorca in a Green Dress
33-34  A Midsummer Night’s Dream
34  The Piano Lesson
34  Present Laughter
34  Richard II
34  Romeo and Juliet
34  Wild Oats

2004
34  The Comedy of Errors
34-35  Henry VI, Part 1
35  Henry VI, Part 2
35  Humble Boy
35  King Lear
35  Oedipus Complex
35  A Raisin in the Sun
35  The Royal Family
36  Much Ado About Nothing
36  Topdog/Underdog
36  The Visit
2005
36  The Belle’s Stratagem
36  By the Waters of Babylon
36  Gibraltar
36  Love’s Labors’ Lost
36  Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom
36  Napoli Milionaria!
36  The Philanderer
36  Richard III
36  Room Service
36  The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus
36  Twelfth Night
2006
37  Bus Stop
37-38  Cyrano de Bergerac
38  The Diary of Anne Frank
38  Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
38  The Importance of Being Earnest
38  Intimate Apparel
38  King John
38  The Merry Wives of Windsor
38  The Two Gentlemen of Verona
39  Up
39  The Winter’s Tale
2007
39  As You Like It
39  The Cherry Orchard
39  Distracted
39  Gem of the Ocean
39  On the Razzle
39  Rabbit Hole
39  Romeo and Juliet
40  The Taming of the Shrew
40  Tartuffe
40  The Tempest
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Plays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Tracy’s Tiger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Clay Cart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Comedy of Errors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coriolanus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Further Adventures of Hedda Gabler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Othello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Our Town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welcome Home, Jenny Sutter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>All’s Well That Ends Well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Death and the King’s Horseman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Don Quixote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equivocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Henry VIII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Macbeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Much Ado About Nothing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Music Man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paradise Lost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Servant of Two Masters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>American Night: The Ballad of Juan Jose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hamlet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Henry IV, Part 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Merchant of Venice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pride and Prejudice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ruined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>She Loves Me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Throne of Blood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Twelfth Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>The African Company Presents…Richard III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August: Osage County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Imaginary Invalid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ghost Light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Henry IV, Part 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Julius Caesar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Language Archive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Love’s Labor’s Lost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Measure for Measure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
53 To Kill a Mockingbird
54 Willful

2012
54 Animal Crackers
54 As You Like It
54 Henry V
54 Medea/Macbeth/Cinderella
54 Party People
55 Romeo and Juliet
55 Seagull
55 Troilus and Cressida
55 The Very Merry Wives of Windsor, Iowa

2013
56-57 King Lear

Series II: COSTUMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Pink dress, ‘Juliet’ from Romeo and Juliet, worn by Kitty Ingle, 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Purple velvet and wool Elizabethan dress, worn by Dorothy Pruitt as ‘Bianca’ in “The Taming of the Shrew” for Golden Gate Exposition, 1939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Green and brown doublet, A Thieves’ Ballad, worn by Les Carlson, 1962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Black corduroy coat, ‘Peachum’ from The Beggar’s Opera, worn by Angus Bowmer, 1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Brocade frock coat, with lace cuffs, men’s, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Maroon dress, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>