



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Designs for The garden of paradise

1914

*T-Vim 1937-001

Processed by Elisabeth Elkind.

Summary

Creator: Urban, Joseph, 1872-1933

Title: Designs for The garden of paradise

Date: 1914

Source: This collection was part of the original donation of the Liebler & Co. records, donated in 1937 by Theodore Liebler, Jr.

Abstract: Designs used in the 1914 production of The Garden of Paradise based on The Little Mermaid by Hans Christian Anderson.

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Processing note: Processed by Elisabeth Elkind; machine-readable finding aid created by Mary Ellen Rogan.

Separated Materials:

Audiovisual materials separated from archival collections are cataloged individually and can be found in the Library catalog. Search CATNYP, The New York Public Library catalog.

Liebler & Co. Records - *T-Mss 1937-001

Creator History

Joseph Urban, artist, architect and designer for the theater, was born in Vienna, Austria and died in New York City.

His designs for *The Garden of Paradise* were his first for the New York theater.

Scope and Content Note

Consists of 15 costume designs, 6 set designs, and 6 plates depicting props for a production in nine scenes of *The Garden of Paradise*, produced by Liebler & Co. at the Park Theatre in New York City.

An adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*, the play opened on November 28, 1914, but closed after only seventeen performances. It was then bought by Florenz Ziegfeld for his *Midnight Frolics*. According to Best Plays of 1909-1919, "The later downfall of the house of Liebler & Co...was presaged by [this] elaborately handsome production."

Arrangement: Arranged in three series: Series I. Set designs Series II. Costume designs Series III. Prop designs

Key Terms

Subjects

Costume design

Theaters -- Stage-setting and scenery

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Costume design drawings

Set design drawings

Names

Urban, Joseph, 1872-1933

Andersen, H. C. (Hans Christian), 1805-1875

Sheldon, Edward, 1886-1946

Liebler & Co.

Container List

Series I: Set Designs (6 designs)

- b. 1 f. 1 *Garden of Paradise set designs*
Set designs include 4 designs for garden and palace views and 2 for the shipwreck.

Series I: Costume Designs

- b. 1 f. 2 *Garden of Paradise costume designs* 1914 (15 costume designs)
Includes costume designs for The Queen, Courtiers, Eglamour, The Gran Visier, the Queens Ladies, Toad Servants of the Sea Witch, The Drenched King, Prince Jelly Fish, Crabs, Queens Court, The Little Queen, Ladies from the Holy Island, The Witch, the Empress Dowager, the Merman Emperor, Undersea Musicians, Undersea Cook and Master of Ceremonies and the Emperor of Crabs.

Series III: Prop Designs

- b. 1 f. 3 *The Garden of Paradise prop designs* (6 mounted sheets)
Included are prop designs for such items as pillows, couches, vases, cups, mirrors, headdresses, musical instruments, combs, keys, throne, shrine and altar, a ring and assorted other items.