

**The New York Public Library**

**Billy Rose Division**

**David Ffolkes Designs**  
**1939-1950**

**\*T-VIM 2010-027**

## **Summary**

**Title:** David Ffolkes Designs, 1939-1950

**Size:** 3.5 linear feet (4 boxes)

**Preferred citation:** David Ffolkes Designs, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

## **Related materials note**

The David Ffolkes Papers, 1924-1966 are housed at the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theatre Research.

## Biographical note

Costume and set designer David Ffolkes (1912-1966) was born in West Hagley, England and designed costumes and sets for numerous theatre productions and films. He served in the Royal Artillery during World War II and was a prisoner of war in Siam for over three years. Ffolkes received a 1947 Tony award for his set designs for *King Henry VIII*. He died of a heart attack in 1966.

## Scope and content note

Primarily original costume designs (ca. 110 designs) by costume and set designer David Ffolkes for the theatrical productions *All Gaul Is Divided* by John McGiver, 1947; *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare, 1939; *King Henry VIII* by William Shakespeare, 1946; *Man and Superman* by George Bernard Shaw, 1947; and *What Every Woman Knows* by James M. Barrie, 1947. Many of the designs include swatches and samples, and several designs are for wigs. There is also 1 color backdrop design for the musical *Seventeen*, music by Walter Kent; lyrics by Kim Gannon; book by Sally Benson; based on the novel by Booth Tarkington; the production opened 1951; the design is dated 1950.

## Container list

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	<i>All Gaul Is Divided</i> (Shubert-Lafayette Theatre, Detroit), 1947 (9 costume and wig designs mounted on 4 boards with swatches and samples)
	2	<i>Hamlet</i> , 1939 (4 costume designs for a production starring and produced by Maurice Evans; pencil on paper; 2 of the Queen; 2 of Hamlet)
		<i>Man and Superman</i> , 1947 (20 costume designs; mostly color; mounted with swatches and samples)
	3	Anne (3 color costume designs with swatches)
	4	John Tanner and Maid (6 costume designs with swatches and samples mounted on 3 boards)
	5	Miss Ramsden and Mrs. Whitefield (3 costume designs with swatches and 5 designs of hat mounted on 3 boards)
	6	Octavius, Straker, Roebuck Ramsden, and Violet (6 costume designs mounted on 3 boards)
	7	Violet (4 costume designs with swatches)
		<i>King Henry VIII</i> , 1946 (55 costume designs for the American Repertory Theatre production; mostly black and white and mounted; many with swatches and samples)
		Designs (38 x 28 cm. or smaller) (Pencil designs on paper (38 x 28 cm. or smaller); many of minor characters)
	1	A-B (8 pencil costume designs; some with swatches)
	2	C-W (10 pencil costume designs; some with swatches)
	3	Fabric Swatches and Samples (2 leaves with swatches and samples for unidentified costumes for this production)
		Designs (58 x 38 cm. or smaller)
2	4	Abergavenny (1 black and white costume sketch with swatches and samples; mounted)
	5	Anne Boleyn (1 black and white costume sketch with swatches and samples; mounted.)
	6	Capucius and Court Lady (2 black and white costume designs with swatches and samples mounted)
	7	Cromwell (2 black and white costume designs with swatches; mounted)
	8	Cross Bearer (1 black and white costume sketch with swatch; mounted)
	9	Duchess of Norfolk with French Noble (1 black and white costume sketch with swatches and sample; mounted)
	10	Duke of Buckingham (2 black and white costume designs with swatches; mounted)
	11	Duke of Norfolk (2 black and white costume designs with swatches; mounted)
	1	Earl of Surrey and 1st Narrator and Prologue (2 black and white costume designs with swatches and sample; mounted)
	2	Garter, King of Arms (1 black and white costume sketch with swatch and notes)
	3-4	Henry (8 costume designs (1 with some color) with swatches; 7 are mounted; 5 of the 8 designs are mounted on 1 board.)
3	5	Herald (1 black and white costume sketch with swatches; mounted)
	6	Katherine (2 black and white costume designs with swatches and sample; mounted)

- 7            2nd Lady and Lord Sands  
              (2 black and white costume designs with swatches and sample; mounted)
- 8            Old Lady  
              (1 color costume sketch with swatches and sample; mounted)
- 9            Patience/First Lady  
              (1 black and white costume sketch with swatches; mounted)
- 4        1            Sir Harry Guildford and Sir Thomas Loval [Lovell]  
              (2 black and white costume designs with swatches and sample; mounted)
- 2            Sir Nicholas Vaux  
              (1 black and white costume sketch with swatches and sample; mounted)
- 3            Spanish Lady (1st and 2nd )  
              (2 black and white costume designs with swatches; mounted)
- 4            Duke of Suffolk and Yeoman [Sergeant] of the Guard  
              (2 black and white costume designs with swatches; mounted)
- 5            *Seventeen* (Musical) (1951), 1950  
              (Watercolor rendering of Act I, Scene 1 backdrop dated Aug. 1950, for the musical  
              *Seventeen*; music by Walter Kent; lyrics by Kim Gannon; book by Sally Benson; based on  
              the novel by Booth Tarkington; production opened 1951.)
- What Every Woman Knows*, 1947  
              (14 color and black and white costume designs with swatches for the American Repertory  
              Theatre production; mounted)
- 6            The Countess and The Lady Sybil  
              (6 color and black and white costume designs with swatches; mounted on 3 boards)
- 7            Maggie, John Shand and Venables  
              (8 color and black and white costume designs; some with swatches; mounted on 3  
              boards)