



## The New York Public Library Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

### **Sothorn and Marlowe collection**

ca. 1879-ca. 1920

\*T-Vim 2010-035

### **Summary**

**Title:** Sothorn and Marlowe collection

**Date:** ca. 1879-ca. 1920

**Size:** 31 drawings; 2 drawings; 2 photomechanical prints

**Abstract:** Performer, director, producer, and writer, E.H. Sothorn (1859-1933) was born in New Orleans into a theatrical family. Educated in England, he worked for some ten years (until 1898) as an actor in Daniel Frohman's company at New York's Lyceum Theatre in comedic and romantic roles. After winning acclaim in his own production of *Hamlet* (1900), Sothorn and his second wife, Julia Marlowe, starred in their productions of Shakespeare and a few modern plays for almost 20 years. He died in New York City of pneumonia. 31 watercolor scenes from various Shakespearean plays, and several sketches (1879 and n.d.) done by actor-producer E. H. Sothorn, as well as costume and property designs by Tony Binder and H. A. Ogden for plays in which Sothorn and his wife, actress Julia Marlowe, appeared. The 3 costume designs by H. A. Ogden are for *The cavalier* (1897) and *If I were king* by Justin Huntly McCarthy (ca. 1901); 2 costume designs by Tony Binder are for an unidentified play; there is also a design for a bed by Mawers, Ltd., and 2 published images of paintings by Antonius Van Dyck, possibly intended as costume designs.

**Preferred citation:** Sothorn and Marlowe collection, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library

### **Creator History**

Performer, director, producer, and writer, E.H. Sothorn (1859-1933) was born in New Orleans into a theatrical family. Educated in England, he worked for some ten years (until 1898) as an actor in Daniel Frohman's company at New York's Lyceum Theatre in comedic and romantic roles. After winning acclaim in his own production of *Hamlet* (1900), Sothorn and his second wife, Julia Marlowe, starred in their productions of Shakespeare and a few modern plays for almost 20 years. He died in New York City of pneumonia.

### **Scope and Content Note**

31 watercolor scenes from various Shakespearean plays, and several sketches (1879 and n.d.) done by actor-producer E. H. Sothern, as well as costume and property designs by Tony Binder and H. A. Ogden for plays in which Sothern and his wife, actress Julia Marlowe, appeared. The 3 costume designs by H. A. Ogden are for *The cavalier* (1897) and *If I were king* by Justin Huntly McCarthy (ca. 1901); 2 costume designs by Tony Binder are for an unidentified play; there is also a design for a bed by Mawers, Ltd., and 2 published images of paintings by Antonius Van Dyck, possibly intended as costume designs.

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Costume design drawings

Watercolors (paintings)

### **Names**

Binder, Tony, 1868-1944

Marlowe, Julia, 1865-1950

Ogden, Henry Alexander, 1856-1936

Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616

Sothern, E. H. (Edward Hugh), 1859-1933

Mawers, Ltd.