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Billy Rose Theatre Division**

Robert Edmond Jones Designs and Originals

***T-VIM 2010-030**

Summary

Main entry: Jones, Robert Edmond.

Title: Robert Edmond Jones Designs and Originals

Size: 1.5 linear feet (2 boxes)

Preferred citation: Robert Edmond Jones Designs and Originals, Billy Rose Theatre Division, *T-VIM 2010-030, The New York Public Library.

Biographical note

Robert Edmond Jones was born in Milton, New Hampshire and attended Harvard University. Jones became an innovative force in modern set design for the American theater. He also designed for opera and dance and was named Radio City Music Hall's first art director in 1932. Jones died at his birthplace at the age of 67.

Scope and content note

Primarily includes original costume designs, but also several set designs, sketches, and portrait drawings by designer, producer and writer, Robert Edmond Jones, for stage productions including some operas. Among the productions are: *The Barber of Seville* (Opera) by Gioacchino Rossini, 1941; Percy Mackaye's *Caliban by the Yellow Sands*, for the New York Tercentenary Celebration, 1916; *Carmen* (Opera) music by Georges Bizet, 1932; *The Cenci* by Percy Bysshe Shelley, undated; *The Devil and Daniel Webster* by Stephen Vincent Benet, 1939; *The Fountain* by Eugene O'Neill, 1925; *Die Gluckliche Hand* (opera) by Arnold Schoenberg, undated; *Mary of Scotland* by Maxwell Anderson, 1933; *The Merchant of Venice* by William Shakespeare, ca. 1914; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare, undated; *Night Over Taos* (previously titled *City Forgotten*) by Maxwell Anderson, 1932; *Orpheus* (Opera) by C.W. Gluck for Central City Opera House, Colorado, 1941; *Othello* by William Shakespeare, 1943; *Susanna, Don't You Cry* (Musical with Stephen Foster songs) by Sarah Newmeyer, 1939; and the Tuskegee Choir for Radio City Music Hall, 1932.

Many of the costume designs include swatches. There are 3 unidentified portrait drawings (1 for which the actor Irving Pichel was possibly the model) and 2 caricatures (1 of which is unidentified). There are worksheets attached to 2 of the 3 costume designs for a nightclub scene from an unidentified 1932 production (possibly for Radio City Music Hall).

Container list

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
		<i>The Barber of Seville</i> (Opera) - Central City, Colorado Opera House, 1941 Costume Designs (Color designs with swatches; signed, matted.)
1	1	Count Almaviva - Act I
1	1	Rosina - Act III
1	1	Set Sketches (3 pen and ink sketches of set, stapled together.)
		<i>Caliban by the Yellow Sands</i> - New York Tercentenary Celebration, 1916 Costume Designs 2 costume designs (female costumes) with swatches; matted; color and pencil.
1	2	Village Girl - English Episode - "4"
1	2	Villager - English Episode - "10"
		<i>Carmen</i> (Opera), 1932 Costume Designs 4 color costume designs with swatches; matted; 3 are signed; 3 have research clippings attached.
1	3	Capes and Hats for Peasants and Smugglers
1	3	Children - Sc. 1 (Street)
1	3	Chorus - Act IV (Arena) - "12"
1	3	Duennas - Act IV
1	4	<i>The Cenci</i> , undated 2 set designs; matted; 1 color, 1 Black and white; gift of Phoebe Randall Radcliffe
		<i>The Devil and Daniel Webster</i> , 1939 1 color costume design with swatches; matted; signed; 1 purple (pencil?) caricature of unidentified male. Costume Design
1	5	Shiff (Dancer)
1	5	Caricature
		<i>The Fountain</i> , 1925 Costume Designs (2 color costume designs with swatches; matted.)
1	6	Beatrice (Porto [sic] Rico) Includes notes on costume and "Too heavy; Too tinsely [sic]."
1	6	Oviedo
1	7	<i>Die Gluckliche Hand</i> (Opera), undated 1 Black and white costume design of 2 figures with handwritten notes.
		<i>Mary of Scotland</i> , 1933 9 color costume designs with swatches and samples; matted; signed; 3 have research clippings attached. Costume Designs 4 color costume designs with swatches; signed; matted; 1 includes research clippings.
		Bothwell
1	8	Act I Sc. 1
1	8	Act II Sc. 2
1	8	Chastelard [sic] Sc. 1 (Includes research clippings.)
1	8	Mary Fleming - Act III
		Mary Stuart
1	9	Act II Sc. 1 Includes research clipping and note in red pencil "Out."
		Act II Sc. 1
1	9	Act II Sc. 3
		Act II Sc. 3
1	9	Moray - Act I Sc. 3
1	9	Morton - Act II Sc. 1
1	9	Ruthven - Act II Sc. 1 (Includes research clipping.)

		<i>The Merchant of Venice</i> , 1914?
2	1	Set Design 1 color set design with <i>Der Kaufmann von Venedig</i> printed on it; possibly done in Germany in 1914.
		<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , undated
		Costume Designs (5 color costume designs (2 on 1 sheet); matted.)
2	2	Cyrus [Illegible]
2	2	Helena
2	2	Hippolyta
		Theseus and Hippolyta
		<i>Night Over Taos</i> (Previous Title <i>City Forgotten</i>), 1932
		Costume Designs
		6 costume designs (1 pencil only, 5 color) with swatches and samples; matted; signed.
2	3	Diana (2nd Costume) - Ruth Nelson (Pencil only with swatches and samples.)
2	3	Don Miguel - Sanford Meisner
2	3	Felipe Federico - Franchot Tone; Walter Coy
2	3	Josefa - Miss Stella Adler
2	3	Pablo Montoya - J.E. Bromberg
2	3	Veri - Miss Morris
		Nightclub, 1932
2	4	Costume Designs and Worksheets 3 color costume designs with swatches (2 for females with worksheets attached to versos, 1 for male); matted.
		<i>Orpheus</i> (Opera) - Central City Opera House, Colorado, 1941
2	5	Set Designs 5 pen and ink sketches for scenery (stapled together and 1 Black and white exterior scene (print?)); matted.
		<i>Othello</i> , 1943
		Costume Designs
		4 color costume designs with swatches and samples; matted; 2 have research clippings; 1 photo of design.
2	6	Bianca - Miss King - Wharf; Courtyard; Arrival (3 designs; 1 has clipping attached.)
2	6	Citizen of Cyprus - [John] Ireys (1 design and 1 Black and white photo of design.)
2	7	Desdemona - Miss Hagen - Courtyard
2	7	Emilia - Miss Webster - Arrival (Includes research clipping.)
2	7	Gentlemen - Arrival
2	7	Servant - Courtyard
		Woman of Cyprus
		<i>Susanna, Don't You Cry</i> (Musical), 1939
		Costume Designs
		5 color costume designs with swatches and samples; signed.
2	8	Angie (Reception)
2	8	Dancer
2	8	Eulalie - Wedding - Dress
2	8	Susan - Ball Dress; Reception
		Tuskegee Choir - Radio City Music Hall, 1932
2	9	Costume Design 1 color costume design (for female) with swatches; matted.

- 2 10 Unidentified, 1913 and undated
Phoebe Randall Radcliffe Gift
Includes 5 items (matted): Black and white set design - "Sc. 4" written on design; pen and pencil Black and white sketch of 3 veiled figures; small portrait in green and blue of classic style head - "Irving Pichel was the model" written on verso; print(?) of woman's face with red lips and black hair, signed, 1913; portrait of man's head and face - "To Phoebe from Robbie" written in lower left corner.
- 2 11 Costume Designs and Caricature
Includes 3 color (female) costume designs on 1 sheet with swatches; 1 brown (pencil?) caricature of unidentified male (possibly related to caricature from *The Devil and Daniel Webster*).