



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Frederick Fox designs

1880-1959 [bulk 1950s]

*T-Vim 1990-027

Compiled by Joyce Joseph, 2014

Summary

Creator: Fox, Frederick B.

Title: Frederick Fox designs

Date: 1880-1959 [bulk 1950s]

Size: 2.6 linear feet (7 boxes)

Source: Donated by Frederick Fox, 2013.

Revision History: Component description and container for Box 7 added and extents in front matter revised accordingly; authorized agents and subjects added from Sierra bib record - Annemarie van Roessel, Billy Rose Theatre Division

Abstract: Frederick Fox (1910-1991) was a scenic designer for theater, opera, and television. The Frederick Fox design files date from 1880 to 1959 and consist of designs, scale drawings, paint elevations, blueprints, photographs, and slides that document his work.

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Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Compiled by Joyce Joseph, 2014

Creator History

Frederick Fox (1910-1991) was a scenic designer for theater, opera, and television. Fox designed scenery and lighting for Broadway shows and Metropolitan Opera House productions. He was a pioneer in television design, working on shows such as *Admiral Broadway Revue* (1949) and the *Your Show of Shows* (1950-1954) series. Fox was a member of the United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829. He died in 1991 after a stroke in New Jersey.

Scope and Content Note

The Frederick Fox designs date from 1880 to 1959 (bulk dates 1950s) and consist of designs, scale drawings, paint elevations, blueprints, photographs, and slides that document his work as a scenic designer.

The bulk of the collection relates to Fox's television design work on the Your Show of Shows (1950-1954) series. There are four volumes of labeled designs and scale drawings that convey the visual concepts. The blueprints and paint elevations detail the set construction, and the photographs and slides reveal the completed scenes. Most of Fox's work includes a United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 stamp.

There are materials from a few other productions such as paint elevations for the television show Admiral Broadway Revue (1949), and slides for the theater production of The Merry Widow (1944).

There are also carte de visite photographs of performing artists collected by Fox.

Arrangement: The materials are arranged by file type: designs and scale drawings; paint elevations and blueprints; and photographs and slides.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Blueprints (reprographic copies)
Cartes-de-visite (card photographs)
Preparatory drawings
Scale drawings
Slides (photographs)

Subjects

Opera -- Stage-setting and scenery
Television -- Stage-setting and scenery
Theaters -- Stage-setting and scenery

Occupations

Set designers

Names

Fox, Frederick B.
United Scenic Artists. Local USA 829

Container List

Designs and Scale Drawings

- b. 1 Your Show of Shows 1950-1954
Volumes I and II.
- b. 2 Your Show of Shows 1950-1954
Volumes III and IV.

Paint Elevations and Blueprints

- b. 3 f. 1 Admiral Broadway Revue 1949
- b. 3 f. 2 Barber of Seville 1950s
- b. 3 f. 3 Bob Hope Special 1950
- b. 3 f. 4 Heidi and Summer in Town 1950s
- b. 3 f. 5 Olsen and Johnson Buick Show 1949
- b. 3 f. 6-12 Your Show of Shows 1950-1954

Photographs and Slides

- b. 4 Cartes de Visite -- Performing Artists 1880-1900s
- b. 5 Slides -- Your Show of Shows 1950-1954
- b. 6 Slides 1940s-1950s
1-11: Babes in Toyland 12-25: Desert Song 26-32: Merry Widow 33-40: Connecticut Yankee
41-46: Naughty Marietta 47-48: Lady in the Dark 49-50: Museum 51-56: Chocolate Soldier 57-
62: City Center (Zizi Jeanmaire) 63-66: Grand Tour 67-69: Heidi 70-74: Good News 75-77: Billy
the Kid 78-83: Merry Widow 84-93: Miscellaneous Interiors 94-119: Your Show of Shows
- b. 3 f. 13 Your Show of Shows -- Rehearsal Photographs 1953
- b. 7 TDC Duo slide projector, with accessories and documentation circa 1950s