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Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Kenneth Foy papers**

1947-2014 [bulk 1990-2008]

\*T-Vim 2015-019

Compiled by Heather Lember and Alison Rhonemus, 2015

## Summary

**Creator:** Foy, Kenneth

**Title:** Kenneth Foy papers

**Date:** 1947-2014 [bulk 1990-2008]

**Size:** 19.47 linear feet (50 boxes, 8 oversized folders, 10 tubes); 229.5 gb (9,789 computer files)

**Source:** Donated by Edward Feuerstein, 2015.

**Abstract:** The Kenneth Foy papers date from 1947 to 2014 (bulk dates 1990-2008) and consist of design files, drawings and sketches, paintings, photographs, and research files spanning the career of scenic designer, Kenneth Foy. The materials pertain exclusively to Foy's artistic output, predominantly showcasing his set design work in theatre and opera.

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**Processing note:** Compiled by Heather Lember and Alison Rhonemus, 2015 Electronic records were processed in April, 2016.

## Creator History

Kenneth Foy received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Cooper Union in New York City, and worked as a scenic designer for theatre, opera, dance, and circus performances from 1965 to 2014. He

has designed the sets for such productions as *9 to 5*, *Annie*, *Carmen*, *Doctor Doolittle*, *High School Musical*, *the King and I*, *My Fair Lady*, *Madame Butterfly*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Sound of Music*, *Tarzan*, and the Tony award winning, *Gypsy*. Foy has also worked as production designer for Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus, and art director for the Emmy award winning documentary, *Moment of Impact*. His other work includes video animation for Mariah Carey's Charm Bracelet tour, and set designs for special events at the Busch Gardens and Six Flags theme parks. Foy was regarded for his ability to adapt large Broadway production designs for successful national tours. He was a member of the Metropolitan Opera's scenic department for twenty five years, and was noted for being on the forefront of utilizing computer generated technology in his design work.

Kenneth Foy died in February 2015.

## Scope and Content Note

The collection dates from 1947 to 2014 (bulk dates 1990-2008), and chronicles the scenic design career of Kenneth Foy through his digital designs and prints, drawings, ground plans, paintings, photographs, prop lists, sketches, and research files. The materials reveal the visual elements that are considered in staging a theatrical production, illustrating the process from early sketches to the final set design.

Much of the collection is comprised of Foy's design files, which include digital designs and prints; equipment estimates; fabric swatches; ground plans; paintings; photographs of sets and performances; posters; programs; props spreadsheets; renderings; and scripts. Some of the files include bid designs, and others contain information regarding contracts and royalties. The design files convey the scope of Foy's design work, covering theatre productions, opera, and special events, most notably with Busch Gardens, Radio City Music Hall, and the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus. Many designs exist in multiple formats and iterations, such as a hand drawn sketch that is also represented as a digital design print and production photograph. Also included among many of the design files are ground plans, some of which are part of a design bid, and then appear in a much larger format with a greater level of detail. These later renderings address considerations such as lighting design, theatre architecture, and prop dimensions.

There is a considerable assortment of drawings, sketches, and animations that are undated and unidentified. While some of these bear a resemblance to items contained within the design files, it is often unclear if the design was utilized for a specific production, is an early draft, or was created for personal use. Some designs are annotated with handwritten notes, while others lack notation linking them to a specific production or project.

The paintings that Foy retained demonstrate the diversity in tactics he employed in his work. While there are paintings that are labeled with production titles for *The Yearling*, *Night of the Iguana*, and *My Fair Lady*, there is a small set which lack labels and thus cannot be attributed to a specific project. The paintings are less prominent than the digital designs, since Foy did much of his design work electronically, and because the collection more strongly documents the latter portion of Foy's career.

While the design files include photographs of productions Foy worked on, the collection also holds additional unlabeled production images. There are also two albums of photographs which portray New York City street scenes, as well as some shots inside the Metropolitan Museum of Art in the early to mid -1990s. The photographs are of interest for their subject matter, and for a glimpse into Foy's pursuit of various artistic mediums.

Foy also retained a small collection of research subject files that include thematically filed clippings, photographs, and design booklets.

**Arrangement:** Files are arranged alphabetically by production title and subject matter.

## **Key Terms**

### **Geographic Names**

Manhattan (New York, N.Y.)

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Photographs

Scene painting

Set design drawings

Sketches

### **Occupations**

Set designers

### **Subjects**

Theaters -- Designs and plans

Theaters -- Stage-setting and scenery

## Container List

- Design Files
  - 9 to 5*
    - b. 15 2012
    - er. 1 2012-2014  
(73.93 Megabytes (69 computer files))
    - t. 1 Ground Plans 2012
    - b. 1 f. 1-2 Programs and Scripts 2012
  - Ain't Broadway Grand*
    - b. 16 1988
    - b. 49 f. 1 Sketch 1988
    - er. 2 *Alta Vista* 1999  
(149.9 Megabytes (5 computer files))
    - o. 2 *The American Soldier Photo Panel Details* 2007
    - er. 3 *American Song* 2000  
(949.7 Megabytes (188 computer files))
    - er. 4 Anheuser Busch 2000  
(169.8 Megabytes (10 computer files))
  - Annie*  
Contains design prints; photographs; programs; and prop information.
    - er. 6 1996-2013  
(2,097 Megabytes (221 computer files))
    - b. 1 f. 3-7 1998-2000
    - b. 39 1998-2000
    - origvid.226354 *Annie Tape* 1997  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
    - origvid.226355 Broadway's New Annie: Search for a Star 1997  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
    - b. 17 Book Illustrations 1998-2000
    - o. 2 Ground Plans 1996-1998
    - b. 48 f. 1 Poster 1998-2000
  - Annie Get Your Gun* 1988
    - b. 18 1988
    - er. 5 2011-2013  
(7,531 Kilobytes (3 computer files))
    - b. 49 f. 1 Sketch 1992
    - b. 46 f. 5 *Anything Goes* 1989
  - The Apple Doesn't Fall*
    - b. 1 f. 8 1996
    - er. 7 2001  
(119.5 Megabytes (2 computer files))
    - er. 8 *Attila* 2009  
(54.68 Megabytes (21 computer files))

Design Files (cont.)

- b. 1 f. 9 *Beauty and The Beast* 2003-2004  
*Big River*
- er. 9 2004-2005  
(625.2 Megabytes (11 computer files))
- b. 1 f. 10 2005  
*Bombay Dreams*  
Contains designs; programs; and financial information that includes contracts, bills, invoices, fees, and royalties.
- b. 2 f. 1-4 2005-2006
- er. 10 2005-2013  
(6,228 Megabytes (102 computer files))
- b. 49 f. 2 2006
- b. 2 f. 5-6 *Both Barrels* 1999
- b. 2 f. 7 *Brimstone* 1994
- er. 11 *Broadway Nights* 2003  
(197.4 Megabytes (29 computer files))  
*Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*
- b. 2 f. 8 2013
- er. 12 2013  
(1,661 Kilobytes (1 computer file))  
**Busch Gardens**  
Contains design prints; ground plans; photographs; and financial information including contracts, bills, and invoices.
- b. 35 2005-2006
- b. 2 f. 9-13 2005-2010
- o. 1 Ground Plans 2001  
*Can-Can*
- er. 13 1996-2000  
(284.1 Megabytes (11 computer files))
- b. 48 f. 1 Poster 1995
- b. 3 f. 1 Program 1995
- b. 48 f. 2 *Candida* 1980-1990  
*Carmen*  
Contains costume and prop files; photographs; posters; and renderings.
- er. 14 1996-1998  
(1,204 Megabytes (211 computer files))
- b. 3 f. 2-4 1998
- b. 46 f. 6 Photographs 1998
- o. 3 Poster 1998
- b. 19 Slide Images 1998
- b. 3 f. 5 *The Cocktail Hour* 1990
- b. 3 f. 6 *Cold Sassy Tree* 2000  
*Cole*
- b. 3 f. 7 1993

Design Files (cont.)

Cole (cont.)

- er. 15      2000-2006  
              (790.5 Megabytes (8 computer files))
- er. 16      *Curtain Up* 2000-2006  
              (641.6 Megabytes (14 computer files))  
  
              *Dame Edna*  
              Contains design prints; notes; programs; and renderings.
- b. 3 f. 8-10      1998-2000
- b. 49 f. 3      1998-2000
- er. 17      1999-2000  
              (993.7 Megabytes (18 computer files))
- b. 3 f. 11      *Destination Broadway* 1995
- er. 18      *Dixie Stampede* 2000  
              (95.16 Megabytes (17 computer files))  
  
              *Doctor Doolittle*  
              Contains design prints; programs; and financial information that includes contracts, bills,  
              invoices, fees, and royalties.
- er. 19      2000-2013  
              (31.52 Gigabytes (631 computer files))
- b. 20      2005
- o. 5      2005
- b. 4 f. 1-7      2005-2006
- b. 46 f. 7      *Dracula* 1993-1996
- er. 20      *Fidelio* 2000  
              (133 Megabytes (4 computer files))
- er. 21      *The Flame Keeper* 2000  
              (629.7 Megabytes (8 computer files))
- b. 4 f. 8      *Funny Girl* 1974  
  
              *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*
- b. 46 f. 8      1994
- er. 22      2000  
              (23.63 Megabytes (1 computer file))
- er. 23      *A Good Swift Kick* 1999-2006  
              (112 Megabytes (2 computer files))
- t. 4      *Goodspeed Musicals* 1989
- er. 24      *Grins and Groans* 2003-2014  
              (349.6 Megabytes (17 computer files))
- b. 4 f. 9      *Guys and Dolls* 2004  
  
              *Gypsy*
- er. 25      2000-2006  
              (3,026 Megabytes (27 computer files))
- t. 2      *Ground Plans* 1989
- t. 3      *Ground Plans* 1989
- b. 4 f. 10      *Programs* 1978-1990
- b. 48 f. 3      *Sketches* 1989
- b. 46 f. 9      *Hay Fever* 1964-2014

Design Files (cont.)

*High School Musical*

Contains design prints; ground plans; programs; prop information; scene layouts; scenic bid designs; and the musical's script.

- er. 26 2000-2014  
(23.95 Gigabytes (1,671 computer files))
- b. 49 f. 4 2001
- o. 5 2006-2007
- b. 4 f. 11-12 2007-2008
- b. 5 f. 1-5 2007-2008
- b. 21 Prop File 2007

*High School Musical 2*

Contains design prints; ground plans; programs; and prop information.

- b. 49 f. 4 2008
- o. 5 2008
- b. 5 f. 6-8 2008-2009
- b. 22 2008-2009
- b. 6 f. 1 2009

- er. 27 *Hole in the Wall* 2005  
(6,540 Kilobytes (5 computer files))

- er. 28 Houston Grand Opera Gala 2004-2005  
(3,202 Kilobytes (102 computer files))

*If You Ever Leave Me, I'm Going With You*

- b. 6 f. 2-3 2001
- er. 29 2001  
(843.2 Megabytes (20 computer files))
- o. 1 Ground Plans 2001

- er. 30 *Iphigenie* 2007  
(1,095 Megabytes (195 computer files))

- er. 31 *Irish Thunder* 2000-2006  
(8,450 Megabytes (549 computer files))

- er. 32 *Jerry Herman Show* 1998  
(186.9 Megabytes (34 computer files))

*The King and I*

- er. 33 1999-2007  
(10.25 Gigabytes (98 computer files))
- b. 6 f. 4-5 2004
- er. 34 *A Life in Theater Presentation* 1998-2014  
(753.6 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

*The Little Mermaid*

- er. 35 2001-2013  
(27.31 Gigabytes (1,421 computer files))
- b. 6 f. 6-8 2013

*A Little Night Music*

Contains ground plans; photographs; programs; and sketches.

- o. 1 Ground Plans 1998

Design Files (cont.)

A Little Night Music (cont.)

- b. 7 f. 1-4 1998-1999
- er. 36 1999-2001  
(1,406 Megabytes (40 computer files))
- b. 7 f. 5 *Loose Lips* 1993
- er. 37 *Lucia* 2007  
(59.30 Megabytes (12 computer files))
- Macbeth*
- er. 38 2007  
(3,124 Kilobytes (4 computer files))
- b. 49 f. 5 Paint Elevation 1981-1982
- b. 7 f. 6 Program 1982
- b. 48 f. 2 Sketch 1981
- Mack and Mabel*  
Contains design prints; ground plans; and programs.
- b. 7 f. 7-9 1998-1999
- o. 4 Ground Plans 1999
- Madame Butterfly*  
Contains design prints; opening animation; and slide cue story board.
- er. 39 1998-2000  
(162.1 Megabytes (47 computer files))
- b. 7 f. 10-11 1999
- b. 8 f. 1-2 1999
- origvid.226356 Animation 1999  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- er. 40 *Magic of Christmas* 2001  
(1,360 Megabytes (8 computer files))
- Mariah Carey Charm Bracelet Tour*
- er. 41 2003  
(1,131 Megabytes (86 computer files))
- b. 46 f. 10 2003-2004
- b. 8 f. 3 *Mefistofele* 1998-1999
- Metropolitan Opera
- b. 8 f. 4 1990-2008
- er. 42 2006  
(1,758 Megabytes (9 computer files))
- Mike*
- er. 43 2004-2006  
(61.50 Megabytes (3 computer files))
- t. 5 Ground Plans and Sketches 1988-1989
- t. 6 Ground Plans and Sketches 1988-1989
- Miracles*
- er. 44 1997  
(721.6 Megabytes (155 computer files))
- b. 23 Ground Plans and Model Photographs 1997



Design Files (cont.)

Miracles (cont.)

- b. 8 f. 5      **Programs 1985-1999**
- Moment of Impact*
- origvid.226364      **Forman, Veder, Kelley, & Jackson Rough Cuts 1999**  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- origvid.226363      **Rough Cut VHS Window Dub 1999**  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- My Fair Lady*  
Contains design prints; prop designs; and financial information that includes contracts, bills, invoices, fees, and royalties.
- er. 45            **2004-2013**  
(13.35 Gigabytes (157 computer files))
- b. 24            **2005**
- o. 5             **2005**
- b. 8 f. 6-8       **2005**
- b. 48 f. 4       *Naughty Marietta* 2000-2001
- er. 46           *New Girl in Town* 2000  
(280.9 Megabytes (6 computer files))
- er. 47           *New House Under Construction* 2008  
(10.45 Megabytes (5 computer files))
- b. 8 f. 9        *Nights on Broadway* 2002-2003
- b. 8 f. 10       *On a Clear Day You Can See Forever* 1997
- Oh, Kay*
- b. 49 f. 6       **1989-1990**
- er. 48           **2007**  
(205.5 Megabytes (1 computer file))
- t. 7             **Ground Plans 1989**
- b. 8 f. 11       **Programs 1989-1990**
- b. 8 f. 12-13    *Opera Odyssey* 2000-2001
- er. 49           *Opera Pacific* 2000-2001  
(2,384 Megabytes (32 computer files))
- Pagliacci*  
Contains design prints; posters; and photographs.
- b. 46 f. 11       **1999-2000**
- er. 50           **1999-2006**  
(2,733 Megabytes (106 computer files))
- b. 9 f. 1-2       **2000**
- o. 3             **Poster 1999-2000**
- b. 25            **Slides 2000**
- origvid.226365    **Top of Show Animation 2000**  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- origvid.226366    **Video Animation 2000**  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- b. 9 f. 3        *Pal Joey* 1990
- er. 51           *Playing for Time* 1999  
(2,286 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

Design Files (cont.)

*Porgy and Bess*

Contains ground plans; production photographs; and programs.

- b. 9 f. 4-7 1994-1998
- origvid.226361 Act I Houston Grand Opera 1995  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- origvid.226367 Act II Houston Grand Opera 1995  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- origvid.226368 After Touch Up 1995  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- t. 8 Ground Plans 1994
- o. 1 Ground Plans 1998
- b. 9 f. 8 *Potholes* 1979
- er. 52 Pulitzer Photographs 2013  
(1,730 Kilobytes (3 computer files))
- er. 53 Radio City Music Hall 1996-2002  
(381.9 Megabytes (14 computer files))

*Recordare*

- b. 9 f. 9 2001
- b. 46 f. 12 2001
- b. 10 f. 1-2 2005

*Red, Hot, and Blue*

- er. 54 2000-2003  
(5,280 Megabytes (154 computer files))
- b. 10 f. 3-6 2001
- b. 10 f. 7 Programs 2001

*Regina*

- b. 10 f. 8 2001
- er. 55 2001-2004  
(2,167 Megabytes (50 computer files))

- b. 11 f. 1 Bids 2001

- er. 56 *Rigoletto* 2014  
(89.72 Megabytes (3 computer files))

*Ring Round the Moon*

- b. 48 f. 2 1982-1983
- er. 57 2000-2006  
(523.5 Megabytes (2 computer files))

Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus

- b. 11 f. 2-4 2001
- er. 58 2001-2004  
(5,934 Megabytes (342 computer files))
- b. 35 2002
- b. 26 Final Version 2001-2002
- b. 27 Prismatic Materials 2002
- b. 28 Research 2001

Design Files (cont.)

*Romeo and Juliet*

Contains programs; shift plans; and sketches.

- b. 11 f. 5-7 1999
- er. 59 1999  
(1,170 Megabytes (33 computer files))

*Say Yes*

- b. 12 f. 1 2000
- er. 60 2000  
(1,567 Megabytes (103 computer files))

- er. 61 *Sea World* 1998-2004  
(10.58 Gigabytes (525 computer files))

- b. 12 f. 2 *Seesaw* 1976

*Siegfried and Roy*

- b. 12 f. 3 2001
- b. 46 f. 13 2001
- er. 62 2001  
(3,360 Megabytes (41 computer files))

*The Simian Line*

- er. 64 1999  
(45.5 Megabytes (22 computer files))
- b. 46 f. 14 2000-2001
- er. 63 *Singular Sensations* 2003-2004  
(63.90 Megabytes (2 computer files))

*The Sound of Music*

- b. 12 f. 4-5 2003
- er. 65 2003-2013  
(8,227 Megabytes (224 computer files))

origvid.226369 *South Pacific Archive Tape - Drury Lane* 1952  
Original video unavailable until digitized.

- b. 12 f. 6 *Starcrossed: The Trial of Galileo* 1994
- er. 66 *Stars on Ice* 1999  
(75.33 Megabytes (13 computer files))

*Styne After Styne*

- b. 12 f. 7 Program 1980
- b. 48 f. 2 Sketch 1980
- b. 12 f. 8-9 *Sweet and Hot*

*Syringa Tree*

Contains design prints; programs; and scripts.

- b. 46 f. 15 2000
- er. 67 2000-2003  
(1,427 Megabytes (20 computer files))
- b. 12 f. 10-12 2002

*Tarzan*

Design Files (cont.)

Tarzan (cont.)

- er. 68      2004-2013  
              (8,374 Megabytes (460 computer files))
- b. 29      2008
- t. 9      Ground Plans 2009
- b. 12 f. 13    *Three Sisters* 1986  
              *Tin Types*
- b. 48 f. 5      1998
- b. 12 f. 14    Program 1998  
              *Turandot*
- b. 46 f. 16    1999-2000
- er. 69      2001  
              (103.3 Megabytes (6 computer files))
- Various
- b. 31      1982-1990
- b. 32      1990-2014
- b. 46 f. 17-19    1990-2014
- b. 50      Custom Embossing Stamp 1965-2008  
              T-Cabinet  
              Available by appointment only.
- b. 12 f. 15    *Waiting for Godot* 2005  
              *White Christmas*  
              Contains design prints; ground plans; and programs.
- er. 70      2002-2014  
              (23.86 Gigabytes (223 computer files))
- o. 5      2007
- b. 12 f. 16-17    2007-2010
- b. 30      2010
- Xerxes
- er. 71      2000-2003  
              (652.3 Megabytes (7 computer files))
- origvid.226358    The Julliard School Xerxes Acts I and II 1985  
              Original video unavailable until digitized.
- origvid.226362    The Julliard School Xerxes Act III 1985  
              Original video unavailable until digitized.
- b. 13 f. 1      Program 1984-1985  
              *The Yearling*
- b. 36      1985
- er. 72      2000-2006  
              (2,312 Megabytes (24 computer files))
- t. 10      Ground Plans 1988
- b. 13 f. 2      Program 1985
- origvid.226370    T.O.T.S Dress Rehearsal 1985  
              Original video unavailable until digitized.

Drawings, Sketches, and Animations

Drawings, Sketches, and Animations (cont.)

- b. 46 f. 1-4 1964-2014
- b. 47 f. 1-8 1964-2014
- b. 48 f. 6-7 1964-2014
- b. 49 f. 7-8 1964-2014
  - o. 6-8 1964-2014
  - b. 40 1980-2014
  - b. 37 1981-1988
- b. 13 f. 3-4 1990-2008
  - er. 73 2000  
(38.63 Megabytes (14 computer files))  
Contains animation titles and audio pertaining to *Madame Butterfly* and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
- origvid.226357 Computer Animation by Kenneth Foy Design 1990-2014  
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- b. 34 Nativity Setting 1961

Paintings

- b. 38 1965-2014
- b. 41-45 1965-2014

Photographs

- b. 13 f. 5 1990-2007
  - b. 39 1990-2014
  - er. 74 2007  
(312.1 Megabytes (79 computer files))  
Contains unlabeled production photographs.
- b. 13 f. 6-7 New York City 1990-1996
  - b. 33 New York City and Metropolitan Museum 1990-1998

Research and Subject Files

- b. 13 f. 8 1920s Nightclub 1961-2014
- b. 13 f. 9 Art Nouveau and Arts and Crafts 1961-2014
- b. 13 f. 10 Artists' Paintings 1961-2014
  - er. 75 Brush Designs 2003-2008  
(202.6 Megabytes (124 computer files))  
Contains images associated with *Tarzan* not available in the production design files.
- b. 13 f. 11 Catalogues 2009-2014
- College of Textiles
  - b. 13 f. 12 2005
    - er. 76 All Them Rags 2004-2005  
(1,649 Megabytes (76 computer files))  
Contains a few images of *Annie and Syringa Tree* that are not in the production design files.
  - b. 14 f. 1 Designs for the Theatre 1947
  - b. 14 f. 2 Eugene Berman 1958-1963
- Figures
  - b. 14 f. 3 1959-1971

Research and Subject Files (cont.)

Figures (cont.)

- er. 77      **1994-2005**  
              (1,434 Megabytes (826 computer files))
- b. 14 f. 4    **Scenic Design 1994-1997**
- b. 14 f. 5    **Staging Systems 2001**