

Florence Klotz Costume Designs

Guides to Special Collections in the Music Division of the Library of Congress



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Washington, D.C.
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Collection Summary

Title: Florence Klotz Costume Designs

Span Dates: 1971-1985

Call No.: ML31.K606

Creator: Klotz, Florence

Extent: 670 items

Extent: 19 containers

Extent: 11.5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2015667105>

Summary: Florence Klotz was an American costume designer best known for her work on Broadway musical collaborations with composer Stephen Sondheim and director Harold (Hal) Prince, including *Follies* (1971), *A Little Night Music* (1973), and *Pacific Overtures* (1976). The collection contains finished costume designs, sketches, fabric samples, and other materials for five musicals and one film adaptation.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Coleman, Cy. On the Twentieth Century.

Grossman, Larry. Grind.

Klotz, Florence.

Sondheim, Stephen. Follies.

Sondheim, Stephen. Little night music.

Sondheim, Stephen. Pacific overtures.

Subjects

Costume design.

Costume designers.

Musical theater--United States.

Theater--United States.

Women costume designers.

Form/Genre

Drawings (Visual works)

Sketches.

Swatches.

Provenance

Purchase, 2011.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The Florence Klotz Costume Designs were processed by Alexandra Ley and Abigail Werner in 2018. Christopher Hartten coded the finding aid for EAD format in 2018.

Other Repositories

The Billy Rose Theatre Division of the New York Public Library contains the [Florence Klotz Papers, 1953-1997](#).

Copyright Status

Materials from the Florence Klotz Costume Designs are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.

Access and Restrictions

The Florence Klotz Costume Designs are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Music Division prior to visiting in order to determine whether the desired materials will be available at that time.

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container number], Florence Klotz Costume Designs, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Florence Klotz was born Kathrina Klotz on October 28, 1920, in Brooklyn, New York. Little is known about her childhood. Klotz graduated from the Parsons School of Design and soon after went to work painting fabrics at Brooks Costumes, where she met Irene Sharaff, costumer for Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The King and I*. Throughout the next ten years, Klotz served as assistant costumer to Sharaff, Joan Personette, Miles White, and Lucinda Ballard before starting her own career.

Klotz's most noteworthy design credits were for productions by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, Stephen Sondheim, and director Harold (Hal) Prince. Prince and Klotz worked on sixteen productions together, including *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (1993), *Show Boat* (1994), *Follies* (1971), *A Little Night Music* (1973), *Pacific Overtures* (1976), *Grind* (1985), and *On the Twentieth Century* (1978), among others. In addition to theater, Klotz also costumed three films, two of which were adapted from previous productions. Reuniting with Hal Prince for *A Little Night Music* (1977) and *Something for Everyone* (1970), the pair worked together on the only two films Prince directed. *Pacific Overtures* was recorded in 1976 at the Winter Garden Theatre for distribution on Japanese television.

Over her nearly thirty year career, Klotz won six Tony Awards for Best Costume Design for *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Grind*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, and *Show Boat*. She was also honored with five Drama Desk Awards for *Follies*, *Pacific Overtures*, *On the Twentieth Century*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, and *Show Boat*. Klotz passed away at her home in Manhattan on November 1, 2006, at the age of 86.

Scope and Content Note

The Florence Klotz Costume Designs contain finished designs, sketches, fabric samples, notes, measurement cards, and related research materials for five Broadway productions and one film adaptation: *Follies* (1971), *Grind* (1985), *A Little Night Music* (1973; film, 1977), *On the Twentieth Century* (1978), and *Pacific Overtures* (1976). The film adaptation of *A*

Little Night Music starred actress Elizabeth Taylor, with whom Klotz had a close professional relationship. The collection also contains designs for other notable performers, including Len Cariou, Imogene Coca, Hermione Gingold, Madeline Kahn, Stubby Kaye, John McMartin, and Ben Vereen.

The Klotz materials are comprised mostly of finished designs, many of which have attached fabric samples. These often contain numbers assigned by Klotz during the design process, some of which correspond to accompanying budget lists. These have been arranged in numerical order wherever possible. Some finished designs are accompanied by sketches and preliminary designs that provide insight into Klotz's approach to her work. With the exception of *Grind*, each production in the collection also includes some amount of historical research materials. Klotz's notes (which detail historical era, construction materials, etc.) for costumes are often written on the designs themselves, occasionally with the name of the performer designated for the costume and/or the scene or song title in which the costume would appear. Measurement cards for actors in these productions are laid in with their corresponding designs.

Organization of the Florence Klotz Costume Designs

The Collection is organized in one series:

- [Costume Designs, 1971-1985](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-19 MAPCASE 3

Series**Costume Designs, 1971-1985**

Chiefly finished designs, some with attached fabric samples. Also includes sketches, notes, measurement cards, and related research materials.

Arranged alphabetically by show title, then numerically by design number therein where possible.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-19 MAPCASE 3	Costume Designs, 1971-1985 Chiefly finished designs, some with attached fabric samples. Also includes sketches, notes, measurement cards, and related research materials. Arranged alphabetically by show title, then numerically by design number therein where possible.
BOX-FOLDER 4/1-15, 5/1-18	Follies, 1971-1972 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 7/1-24	Follies, 1971-1972 Costume designs
MAPCASE-DRAWER 3/1	Follies, 1971-1972 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 1/1-7, 8/1-3	Follies, 1971-1972 Costume designs and research materials
BOX-FOLDER 1/8-10, 8/4-21	Grind, 1985 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 9/1-22, 10/1-11	Grind, 1985 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 1/11-28, 2/1-27	A little night music, 1973-1974 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 5/19-20, 6/1-5	A little night music, 1973-1974 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 15/1-4	A little night music, 1973-1974 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 3/1-21	A little night music, 1973-1974 Costume designs, research materials, and notes
BOX-FOLDER 6/7-9, 15/5-23	A little night music [film], 1977 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 3/22-24	A little night music [film], 1977 Costume design, fabric sample, and notes
BOX-FOLDER 6/11-16	On the Twentieth Century, 1978-1979 Costume designs
BOX 16-19	On the Twentieth Century, 1978-1979 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 3/25	On the Twentieth Century, 1978-1979 Research materials
BOX-FOLDER 10/12-15	Pacific overtures, 1976 Costume designs

Costume Designs, 1971-1985

Container

Contents

BOX 11-14	Pacific overtures, 1976 Costume designs
BOX-FOLDER 3/26-31	Pacific overtures, 1976 Costume designs, sketches, and fabric sample
BOX-FOLDER 6/17-18	Pacific overtures, 1976 Miscellaneous documents and research materials