

**The New York Public Library
The Library for the Performing Arts
The Billy Rose Theatre Division**

Ladislav Czettel costume designs
1933-1945, undated
*T-VIM 2012-009

Summary

- Main entry:** Czettel, Ladislav
- Title:** Ladislav Czettel Costume Designs, 1933-1945, undated
- Size:** 3.5 linear feet (2 boxes)
- Abstract:** 119 original color costume designs on board and pencil sketches on tracing paper, created by costume designer Ladislav Czettel for mostly opera productions in 1933-1945. The majority of the designs are for productions in New York City, but a few are from shows for which Czettel designed prior to his arrival in the United States. The collection also includes some fashion designs, and 2 designs for costumes for Wendy Hiller in the 1938 film *Pygmalion*.
- Preferred citation:** Ladislav Czettel costume designs, *T-VIM 2012-009, The Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

Biographical note

Fashion and costume designer Ladislav Czettel was born in Budapest, Hungary. In addition to fashion designs, Czettel created costumes for theater, opera, film, cabarets, and variety shows in Europe, such as the *Folies Bergère* in Paris, and the theaters of Vienna and Berlin with Max Reinhardt. From 1935 to 1938 he taught at Vienna's Reinhardt-Seminar. In 1938 Czettel fled Germany for London, and then New York, where he taught at the Dramatic Workshop of the New School for Social Research, and created costumes for several operettas, including *Rosalinda* (1942), and *Helen Goes to Troy* (1944). He died in 1949 in New York City.

Scope and content note

86 original color costume designs on board, and 33 pencil sketches on tracing paper, created by costume designer Ladislav Czettel for opera productions in 1933-1945. The majority of the designs are for productions in New York City, but a few are from shows for which Czettel designed prior to his arrival in the United States. The collection also includes some fashion designs, and 2 designs for costumes for Wendy Hiller in the 1938 film *Pygmalion*. Several drawings include swatches, notes, and additional sketches on the margins or verso. Most drawings for *Helen Goes to Troy* include additional sheet with notes on the costume taped on verso. The sketches and some of the unidentified costume drawings are possibly fashion designs.

Container list

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	C-L, 1933-1941 7 drawings for <i>Charlotta von Mexico</i> , (opera), Redutensaal, 1933; <i>Daughter of the Regiment</i> (opera), Metropolitan Opera, Season 1940-1941; <i>London Rhapsody</i> , Palladium, London, 1937. <i>Helen Goes to Troy</i> (operetta), 1944
	2	A-D 5 drawings for Achilles, Agamemnon, Ajax, Calchas, Discordia.
	3	Bathroom scene 3 drawings.
	4	Chorus (men) 4 drawings for Bopsy, Chorus, Stagehands, Supers.
	5	Dancers (women) 14 drawings.
	6	Helen 5 drawings.
	7	J-O 5 drawings for Juno, Menelaus, Mercury, Minerva, Orestes.
	8	P-V 6 drawings for Paris, Parthenis, Philocomus, Venus.
2	1	P-T, 1934-1942 7 drawings for <i>Pygmalion</i> (motion picture), 1938; <i>Rosalinda</i> (operetta), 1942; <i>Rosenkavalier</i> (opera), Salzburg, possibly 1934-1937; <i>La Tosca</i> (opera), undated; <i>La Traviata</i> (opera), undated.
	2-4	<i>La Vie Parisienne</i> (opera), 1945 15 drawings.
	5-6	Unidentified productions, undated 15 drawings. Some are possibly fashion designs.
	7	Sketches, undated 33 drawings. Possibly fashion designs.