Boise State University Digital Theatre Costume Collection

Act I: The Project

- Sponsor: Scholarly Communications and Data Management Unit, Albertsons Library, Boise State University
- The institutional repository (IR) ScholarWorks collects and provides access to Boise State's academic scholarship, but lacks non-traditionally published work in the humanities.
- Institutions are digitizing historical dress collections, but not theatrical costumes.
- Costumes are altered & repurposed unless the garment is documented each version is lost.
- Goal: Create new IR collection for Boise State theatre costume designs starting with the 2013 production of Thoroughly Modern Millie.



Act II: The Process

- Background research on both sponsor & published studies of how designers use libraries for their work
- Tried to find collections of historic & theatrical costumes to base metadata (i.e. descriptive information) scheme on – 3 Italian efforts with theatre costumes are no longer available online
- Created basic record format with 11 metadata fields using Dublin Core Simple schema
- Scanned and prepared 38 individual costume renderings in high-resolution lossless TIFF file format.
- Selected & photographed 13 costumes (25 pictures total); photos prepared for publication & saved in a lossless TIFF file format
- Collected metadata of physical costumes including: fabric content, construction, basic measurements, & additional info specific to the performance
- Ensured Designer's Statement was obtained to provide additional context

Act III: The Outcome

- Digital publication of 63 individual records with DOIs (Digital Object Identifier):
 http://scholarworks.boisestate.edu/millie
 _2013_costumes
- Creation of uploader's manual specifically for new collection to aid entry consistency & troubleshooting
- Creation of submission form for future production designs to gather necessary metadata & allow for faster processing

f 🔰 in G+1 🔄 🛨 Creation Date marker, pencil, and ink on marker paper Description Dimensions: 17 x 11 inche Designer's Statement The grand musical *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is a celebration of the 1920's in America Life, love and the pursuit of husband drive Millie Dillmount into the early feminist novement in the United States. Mounted for the 2012 Boise State Theatre Arts Department spring musical this production borrows from the 1967 film of the same name. The costumes created for this production reflect the sprit of 1922 fashion while Screenshot of published record of rendering also lending an element of fantasy. Bold colors, geometric patterns and textures help to reate the storybook New York City of 1922. Because early 20th century fashion did all doi: 10.18122/B2VC7T but glorify the female figure we chose to combine the trimmer silhouette most often found in the 1930's with that of the dropped waist and patterns of the 1920's. This intentional distortion of period, patterns and colors give the audience a visually

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE (2013) - COSTUMES

<u>
♣ Thumbnail</u>

Roaring Twenties, 1920s,

Millie - Act II. Scenes iv - vii

Darrin J. Pufall, Boise State University

Act IV: The Impact

- Project turned into a digital publishing opportunity rather than a type of archival collection
- Project is a renewed step in the library world in terms of cataloging & presenting theatrical costume designs
- A new beginning for Boise State in capturing this type of academic scholarship & an expansion of original open access publishing
- Open access ensures these efforts are available worldwide
- All record contents are indexed through Google - increasing discoverability

Published version of rendering by Darin J. Pufall (Dress worn in lobby poster)
doi: 10.18122/B27P46





Example of an altered garment.

Designed for the character of Millie

Dillmount, Act II, Scenes iv-viii

doi: 10.18122/B2S88J

Act V: Up Next

- Capture previous & future costume designs & garments
- Create collections for other theatre elements (ex. stage design)
- Record knowledge process, create checklists, & gather references for uploaders with no garment background to aid in verifying metadata

