

Fashion Institute of Technology-SUNY, Gladys Marcus Library, Special Collections

Finding Aid - Hattie Carnegie Sketches, 1940-1955 (SC.242)

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Language of description: English

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Hattie Carnegie Sketches, 1940-1955

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Summary information

Repository:	Fashion Institute of Technology-SUNY, Gladys Marcus Library, Special Collections
Title:	Hattie Carnegie Sketches, 1940-1955
ID:	SC.242
Date:	1940-1955 (date of creation)
Physical description:	1 oversized box
Language:	English
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Hattie Carnegie was born Henrietta Kanengeiser in Vienna, Austria on March 15, 1889. In 1900, she immigrated with her family to the United States where they settled in New York City. She later changed her last name to Carnegie because of its association with wealth. In 1909, she bought a store with Rose Roth called "Carnegie Ladies' Hatter". Carnegie studied parisian fashion styles which she adapted for her customers. In 1919, she bought Rose Roth's share of the business and Hattie Carnegie, Inc. was born. In 1928, Carnegie introduced her first ready-to-wear line designed by Norman Norell. By 1940, Carnegie had more than 1,000 employees producing her ready-to-wear lines, but her custom shop was the foundation of her reputation. During WWII, Carnegie became a leader in the Amercian Fashion scene where she began to rely on American fabric designers. In the 1950's she continued to make chic and conventional dresses and suits, along with ballgowns that were adapted from French couturiers. she was also known for using a particular shade of blue in many of her garments that became known as "Carnegie blue". Carnegie died in 1956, but her business stayed open under the direction of her husband, John Zanft and employee, Larry Joseph until 1976.

Custodial history

This collection was part of the donation to SPARC from The Metropolitan Museum of Art/Costume Institute in 2011. Officially recognized by deed of gift 2013.

Scope and content

This collection is comprised of fashion sketches made for Hattie Carnegie, Inc. from 1940 - 1955. This collection contains millinery (hats) for which some designs can be attributed to Esther A. Kleeper in 1945. The remainder of the collection is ready-to-wear dresses and suits, along with evening wear, mostly ballgowns, that were adapted from French couturiers for the American woman. The sketches have been divided into millinery, ready-to-wear, and evening wear. Many of the sketches are not dated, but based upon a survey of the collection and dates of similar physical garments made by Hattie Carnegie, Inc. it is assumed that the sketches are from the aforementioned dates.

Notes

Title notes

Arrangement

collection series folder

Location of originals

The Library of the Fashion Institute of Technology, Department of Special Collections and FIT Archives, 27th St. at 7th Ave., NY, NY , USA, 10001

Restrictions on access

Access is open to researchers by appointment at the Fashion Institute of Technology Library, Department of Special Collections and FIT Archives.

Conditions governing use

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Related material

Brooklyn Museum Libraries and Archives: Fashion and costume sketch collection: designer files. (4 gown designs for the Duchess of Windsor by Hattie Carnegie, Inc.) FIT Special Collections: Claire McCardell Collection, 1920-1975 Parsons Special Collections: Claire McCardell Skecthes, 1931-1958

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Full

Access points

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)
- Fashion design--United States--History (subject)
- 20th century--Pictorial works (subject)
- Fashion illustration (subject)
- Millinery--Pictorial works (subject)
- Millinery--United States (subject)
- Ready-to-wear clothing industry--History (subject)

Series descriptions

Series SC.242.1: Hattie Carnegie Sketches, gowns to millinery

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This series contains sketches from Hattie Carnegie, Inc. ranging from gowns to millinery.

Physical description: 3 folders

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
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Folder SC.242.1.1: Hattie Carnegie Sketches, millinery, 1940's

Creator: Klepper, Esther

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This folder contains 5 sketches of millinery (hats) designed for Hattie Carnegie, Inc. Some of the designs can be attributed to Esther A. Klepper (1945).

Physical description: 1 folder

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	Item - Millinery design by Esther Klepper for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.; White Hat with Large Black Satin Bow			
	Item - Millinery design by Esther Klepper for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.; Grey Flat Top Hat with Bows and Flower			

Folder SC.242.1.2: Hattie Carnegie Sketches, garments

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This folder contains 20 sketches of garments such as dresses and suits designed for Hattie Carnegie, Inc.

Physical description: 1 folder

Access points:

- Carnegie, Hattie (subject)

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
	Item - Black Day Suit with Flared Jacket and Fitted Skirt			

Folder SC.242.1.3: Hattie Carnegie Sketches, evening gowns

Creator: Carnegie, Hattie

Date: 1940-1955 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

This folder contains 10 sketches of evening gowns. Hattie's signature color "Carnegie Blue" is represented in a few of the color choices for the gowns.

<p><u>Physical description</u>: 1 folder</p> <p><u>Access points</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carnegie, Hattie (subject) 				
File / item list				
<p>Series SC.242.2: Hattie Carnegie Menswear</p> <p><u>Creator</u>: Carnegie, Hattie</p> <p><u>Date</u>: 1940-1955 (date of creation)</p> <p><u>Scope and content</u>:</p> <p>This series contains a menswear sketch for Hattie Carnegie Inc.</p> <p><u>Physical description</u>: 1 sketch</p> <p><u>Access points</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carnegie, Hattie (subject) 				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC.242.2.1	Item - Hattie Carnegie Menswear Sketch	1940-1955		