Guide to the Division of Costume Audiovisual Collection

NMAH.AC.0801
Jennifer Snyder
2001
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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Division of Costume Audiovisual Collection
Identifier: NMAH.AC.0801
Date: 1928-1989
Extent: 3 Cubic feet (3 boxes) 23 film reels
Creator: Costume, Division of (NMAH, SI).
Language: English

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition
Collection transferred by Division of Social History, National Museum of American History.

Ownership and Custodial History
Transferred to the Archives Center by the Division of Costume in 2000. Additional fashion-related films were also transferred at the same time, but were placed in other collections, specifically, the Jantzen Collection and the Dorothy Shaver Collection.

Related Materials
- Materials in the Archives Center
- DuPont Nylon Collection, 1939-1977 (NMAH.AC.0007)
- Jantzen Knitting Mills Collection, 1925-1977 (NMAH.AC.0233)
- Estelle Ellis Collection, 1941-1994 (NMAH.AC.0423)
- Priscilla of Boston Collection, 1940-1996 (NMAH.AC.0557)
- Maidenform Collection, 1922-1997 (NMAH.AC.0585)
- Dorothy Shaver Papers, ca. 1922-1959 (NMAH.AC.0631)
- Virginia "Jimmie" Booth Collection (NMAH.AC.0729)

Processing Information
Collection processed by Jennifer Snyder and Vanessa Broussard Simmons, 2002.
Preferred Citation

Restrictions on Access
Collection is open for research and access on site by appointment.

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Biographical / Historical
These materials were transferred from the Division of Costume to the Archives Center.

Scope and Contents
Films, videos, tape recordings, and slides on fashion and clothing.

Arrangement
The collection is divided into four series.
Series 1: Films, 1920s-1930s, 1970s
Series 2: Videocassettes, undated
Series 3: Audio Tapes and Cassettes, 1970s-1990s
Series 4: Slides, 1962, 1974-1975

Names and Subject Terms
This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:
Costume design -- 1920-1990
Fashion -- 20th century

Types of Materials:
Scripts (documents)
Slides (photographs) -- 1950-2000
Container Listing

Series 1: Films, 1920s-1930s, 1970s

Subseries 1.1: DuPont Industrial Fashion Films, circa 1970s

Reel OF801.1  Pret-A-Porter
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 140 feet )
Producer: DuPont
No credits.
Note on box: Ungaro Pret-A-Porter
Leader: Mercury News Film Ungaro - DuPont

Reel OF801.2  American Designer Fashions for Spring 71, circa 1971
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 175 feet)
Descriptive Summary: Features models in the desert showing off new fashions. Creator: Producer: Produced by DuPont.
Box: American Designer Fashions for Spring >71.

Reel OF801.3  Around the World Holiday Caper, circa 1971
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 600 feet)
Descriptive Summary: Features models on assignment in Rome, India, Hong Kong, Australia, and Fiji.
Producer: DuPont
Notes: Qiana nylon for DuPont. Filmed in cooperation with BOAC. All other credits differ for each segment.
India: Fashions by Gayle Kirkpatrick (1935 - 1997) for Bymini (Tupelo, Miss. born fashion designer who was known for his youthful, modern approach to American sportswear). John Haggins for Stella Fagin.
Fiji: Fashions by Gayle Kirkpatrick for Bymini; Kasper for Joan Leslie and Robert David Morton.

Reel OF801.4
Fabled Fashions: Men's/Women's Knits Fall >71, circa 1971
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 260 feet)
Notes: Men's knits: Brentwood, Drummond, Robert Bruce, Lord Jeff, Jockey.
Women's knits: Bananas, Great Times, Jane Irwill, Blaimoor. Orlon acrylic and Wintuk yarns of AOrlon.

Reel OF801.5
Quandry in Quebec, circa 1971
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 190 feet)
Notes: Women's clothing by Bobbie Brooks. Men's clothing by Donegal. Wintuk yarns of Orlon acrylic and ADacron polyester. Filmed in cooperation with Le Chateau Frontenac [a luxury hotel in Quebec].
Note on box: M71-1139

Reel OF801.6
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 210 feet)
Performers/Persons Appearing: Model - Samantha Jones
Note on Box: F-73-2073 Fashion Capitol

Reel OF801.7
A Fashion Odyssey, circa 1978
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 175 feet)
Notes: Qiana nylon by DuPont. Filmed in cooperation with Halian Line.

Reel OF801.8
Sweatering Up, circa 1978
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 175 feet)
Qiana nylon by DuPont. Filmed in cooperation with Halian Line.
Notes: No credits.
Note on box: 2122 DuPont

Reel OF801.9
An American Love Story: Preview Fall Fashions, undated
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 228 feet)
Descriptive Summary: A loving couple shows off Fall fashions on a trolley, in a park, on horseback, etc.
Reel OF801.10  
Down Mexico Way, undated  
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 175 feet)  
Notes: Wardrobe by Wrangler in ADacron polyester.  
Note on box: Print #35. 553 TV Tape on film: Bell telephone Down Mexico Way 4:50.

Reel OF801.11  
Fashions for Dreaming, undated  
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 145 feet)  
Producer: Produced by DuPont.  
Notes: Fashions by: Eve Stillman, Formfit Rogers, Henson-Kickernick, Johnson Kloss for Cira, Perfect Negligee, Sans Souci, Shadowline, Stella Fagin, Bill Tice for Royal Robes, Vanity Fair. Fashions in Qiana Nylon  
Note on can: T-4406. E.I. DuPont de Nemours & Co. (color) E.

Reel OF801.12  
Fashion Safari, undated  
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 210 feet)  
Descriptive Summary: Scenes of Africa (animals, landscapes, and people) intermingled with female fashion models wearing fashions with African inspired textiles and patterns.  
Notes: Fashions by Domino, Leslie Fay, Matti of Lynne, Tanerway. Filmed in Cooperation with East African Airways. Qiana nylon  
Leader: Dupont Africa  
Box: E-73-2075 Fashion Safari

Reel OF801.13  
Holiday In Newport, undated  
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 175 feet)  
Producer: Produced by DuPont.  
Notes: Fashions by Act III, Ellen Tracy, Epic Evan Picone, Jack Winter, Loomtogs, Olga, Seaton Hall, Vera. Cool-Ray Polaroid sunglasses. Dacron and OrlonAMercury NewsFilm DuPont America's Cup

Reel OF801.14  
Loafing With Father, undated  
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 140 feet)  
Creator: Dupont/Levi's.  
Producer: Produced by Vivian Auerbach Associates.  
Notes: Wardrobe by Levi Strauss. Featuring jeans in Dacron polyester.

Reel OF801.15  
Paris Fashion Designer Quartet, undated  
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 125 feet)  
Descriptive Summary: Fashion models in Paris.
Notes: Featuring: Emanuel Ungaro, U [?], Pierre Cardin, Courreges, Jean Patou. No further credits.

Leader: Dupont Qiana Designer Quartet Mercury Newsfilm M70-1009

Box: Paris Fashion Designer Quartet

Reel OF801.16
A Tale of Gods and Fashions, undated
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 275 feet)
Reference video exists.

Subseries 1.2: Other Industrial Fashion Films, circa 1970s

Reel OF801.17
The Big Stretch, circa 1970
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 75 feet)
Descriptive Summary: Features several female models in various leotard type outfits dancing/stretching.

Notes: Antron and Lycra fabrics used.

Note on box: High Expectations 41/2 mins. Concept film on men's stretch comfort. The Big Stretch is stamped on the box but is crossed out.

*Film leader states this is Big Stretch.

Reel OF801.18
Betsy's Dream Safari, undated
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 175 feet)
Notes: Children's Fashions by Cinderella. Filmed at Lion County Safari in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Reel OF801.19
Fashion In Action, undated
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 200 feet)
Creator: Tele-Tactics, Inc.

Producer: Tele-Tactics, Inc.

Notes: ILGWU label department. Fashion selection and script by Modern Merchandising Bureau.

Reel OF801.20
SSHamburg Maiden Voyage, undated
1 Reel (16mm color composite optical track print, 140 feet)

Subseries 1.3: Miscellaneous Films, 1920s-1930s

These films consist of a fashion show of golf wear at a resort in the 1920s and home movies of the Metz-Greene wedding and their children taken in the 1930s. The films are arranged chronologically.

Reel OF801.21
Golf Reel #1, circa mid 1920s
1 Reel (16mm silent camera original reversal, 150 feet)
Notes: Note on can: torn label Run G...

Reel OF801.22
Golf Reel #2, undated
Reel OF801.23

Metz-Greene Wedding (Home Movie), 1930, 1937, 1938

Notes: Note inside can states this film is a reproduction because the original was brittle. It was made in March 1978.

It also identifies the films: Film 1: Pans Metz sign then shows bride and groom. [Wedding of Tillie Marion Metz to Leo Aaron Greene on March 2, 1930 (Brooklyn, NY)]


[Tillis Metz Greene was born in 1908. Leo Aaron Greene was born in 1908 and died in 1954]
Series 2: Videocassettes, undated

I.C.C. Claudia Kidwell/Grant McCracken, undated
1 videocassettes (hi8)

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Series 3: Audio Tapes and Cassettes, 1970s-1990s
These consist mostly of oral history interviews with designers. They are arranged by format, then by date.

Vera Maxwell, Designer, 1973-05-02
In her office, New York; Early days in business

Dona Guimaraes, Editor *Madamoiselle*, 1973-05-02
In her apartment 215 E. 73rd St. New York; Reminiscences and observations on industry in the 1940s-1950s

5 tapes [labeled 2-6, missing #1]

Session with Edward Maeder, 1973-09-28
Pattern Cutting of Historic Clothing

Evan-Picone & Frank Smith, 1977-04-12
Side 1: Biography; Side 2: How it All Starts Part 3: Side 2: The Factory, Production planning

Interviewer: Barbara Dickstein

Evan-Picone, Factory Sounds, North Bergen Factory, 1977-04-28

Joe Simms on Adrian garments in Smithsonian collection, 1977-11-04

Point-of-view: Joseph Dratch, 1977
Topic: Retailing in Relation to Customer

Interviewer: Barbara Dickstein

Edward Maeder, 1978-03-03

Widher [?], 1980-04-23
Tape conversation of wedding.

(Claudia, Gary, Avi, Bob, Ann R.), For Statements Pre-Fischer Visit, undated

Unidentified, 2 tapes, undated

Unidentified, 3 tapes, undated

Evan-Picone Interview, Irving Spotalnica, 1977-11

Coll. Man., 1984-03-17

Mr. William P. Field, English Custom Tailor, 1989-07-06

[PW] [Priscilla Wood?], 1994-11-16

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Series 4: Slides, 1962, 1974-1975

Slides and accompanying scripts from Madamoiselle

Box 1, Folder 1  Madamoiselle: Young Tycoon Fashion Show script, 1962
Box 1, Folder 2  Madamoiselle's What Works: Accessories script, 1974
Box 1, Folder 3  Madamoiselle's What Works: Accessories slides, 1974
Box 1, Folder 4  Madamoiselle Good News for Summer script, 1975
Box 1, Folder 5  Madamoiselle Good News for Summer slides, 1975
Box 1, Folder 6  Madamoiselle Interstoff script, 1975
Box 1, Folder 7  Madamoiselle Interstoff slides, 1975
Box 1, Folder 8  Madamoiselle Young Fashion Futures script, 1975
Box 1, Folder 9  Madamoiselle Young Fashion Futures slides, 1975