



University of Victoria Archives

AR375

Biddy Gaddes fonds

1. Fonds-level description

Title

Biddy Gaddes fonds

Dates

1964-1976

Extent

37 collages and other material

Biographical sketch

Margaret Thompson "Biddy" McNeill was born 3 March 1919. In 1941 she received a teaching degree from the University of British Columbia. While teaching school in Chilliwack she met William Henry "Bill" Gaddes (1912-2008) - the twin brother of musician Boyce Gaddes - whom she married in 1944. The couple had four children: Neill, Janet, Ann, and Sara. Shortly after marrying they moved to Victoria. While Bill worked as the chairman of the psychology department at the new University of Victoria, Biddy acted as a volunteer costume designer for university theatre productions from 1963 to 1970. She went on to do contract work as a costume designer for various Victoria theatre productions from 1970 until 1982. Gaddes died 12 May 2013.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of collages (watercolour and fabric) and drawings of costumes designed for the following UVic and community theatre productions: *On Baile's Strand*, 1965; *The Player Queen*, 1965; *A Man for all Seasons*, 1965; *Renaissance '65*, 1965; *Murder in the Cathedral*, 1966; *Rhinoceros*, 1966; *Hadrigan VII*, 1973; *Old Tomorrow: A Saga of the CPR*, 1973; *The Three Sisters*, 1974; *The Bartered Bride*, 1978; *A Dickens Digest*, n.d.; *Ghosts*, n.d.; *Mrs. Alving*, n.d.; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, n.d. Fonds also includes slides of 3 unidentified productions possibly depicting costumes designed by Biddy Gaddes.

Notes

Gift of Biddy Gaddes, July 2000.

2. Structure

(no series or files)

3. Inventory

Accession 2001-037

Folder 1 (MD 76)

- 1.1 Shakespeare '64 Poster, University of Victoria, 1964.
- 1.2 On Baile's Strand, Yeats Festival, University of Victoria -- 5 watercolor and fabric collages. -- 1965.
 - 1.2.1 Collage depicting costumes for six kings. The actor for each king is named: David Grubb, Gordon Harris, Joe Prentice, Dick Wood, Dick Grubb, Hew Gwynne.
 - 1.2.2 Collage depicting costumes for six peasants.
 - 1.2.3 Collage depicting costumes for Blind Man, actor Walter.
 - 1.2.4 Collage depicting costumes for The Fool, actor Harry Hill.
 - 1.2.5 Collage depicting costumes for King Cuchulain, actor Paul Bettis.
- 1.3 The Player Queen, Yeats Festival, University of Victoria. -- 1 watercolor, 1 pencil collage. -- 1965.
 - 1.3.1 Collage depicting costume for crowns.
 - 1.3.2 Collage depicting costume for Harry Hill as Septimus.
- 1.4 A Man for All Seasons, University of Victoria. -- An ink drawing for costumes for the following parts: Margaret More, Sir Thomas More, The Common Man, Malvolio, Andrew Aguecheek, Feste, and Toby Belch. -- 1965.
- 1.5 Renaissance 65, University of Victoria. -- Drawings for printer plates for programs. -- 4 plates. -- 1965.
- 1.6 Murder in Cathedral. -- 7 watercolor collages. -- 1966.
 - 1.6.1 Collage depicting costumes for Becket.
 - 1.6.2 Collage depicting costumes for Knights.
 - 1.6.3 Collage depicting costumes for Priests and Bearers.
 - 1.6.4 Collage depicting costumes for Tempter 1. Actor Richard Litt.
 - 1.6.5 Collage depicting costumes for Tempter 4. Actor John Drear.
 - 1.6.6 Collage depicting costumes for Tempters masks from death mask of Becket.
 - 1.6.7 Collage depicting costumes for Women.
- 1.7 Rhinoceros, University of Victoria. -- 5 watercolor collages, 2 prints. -- 1966.
 - 1.7.1 Collage depicting costumes for Act I, Scene 1.
 - 1.7.2 Collage depicting costumes for Act I, Scene 2.
 - 1.7.3 Collage depicting costumes for Act II.
 - 1.7.4 Collage depicting costumes for Act II, Little old man.
 - 1.7.5 Collage depicting costumes for Act III.
 - 1.7.6 Print from the Exhibition of graphics at the Vancouver Public Library, n.d.
 - 1.7.7 Production poster from the University of Victoria Campus Players.
- 1.8 Hadrigan VII. -- Oil pastel and fabric collage depicting costume. Actor John Heath. - 1973.

- 1.9 Company One -- Old Tomorrow: A Saga of the CPR. -- A watercolor and fabric collage depicting costumes for Marie Cadice - Woman who stayed in the east. -- 1973.
- 1.10 The Three Sisters. -- 8 watercolor and fabric collages, 3 watercolor collages. -- 1974.
 - 1.10.1 Collage depicting costume for Irina.
 - 1.10.2 Second collage depicting costume for Irina.
 - 1.10.3 Collage depicting costumes for Natasha.
 - 1.10.4 Second collage depicting costumes for Natasha.
 - 1.10.5 Third collage depicting costumes for Natasha.
 - 1.10.6 Collage depicting costumes for Olga.
 - 1.10.7 Second collage depicting costumes for Olga.
 - 1.10.8 Collage depicting costume for Feditik and Rode.
 - 1.10.9 Collage depicting costume for Andrey.
 - 1.10.10 Collage depicting costume for Ferapont.
 - 1.10.11 Collage depicting costume for Toozenbach.
- 1.11 The Bartered Bride. -- 2 pencil drawings for costumes, 2 oil pastel collage depicting costumes, photocopied material. -- 1978.
 - 1.11.1 Drawing for costumes for the following parts: bride, groom, married woman, young man, male dancer, female dancer, Indian, dancers for Act III.
 - 1.11.2 Drawing for costumes for the following parts: Kecoal, Marenka, Jenik, Vasek, Gsmereida, Ludmilla, Krushina, Micha, Nata, Director.
 - 1.11.3 Collage depicting costumes for Actors: Amy, Monique, Ron Webb, Ron Vissers, Warren, Don M., Vamie, Warren, Wayne.
 - 1.11.4 Collage depicting costumes. -- Unknown.
 - 1.11.5 Description and costume design from Czechoslovakia.
- 1.12. A Dickens Digest. -- 1 oil pastel collage, 3 pencil drawings, 1 information sheet.-- undated.
- 1.13 Ghosts. -- 4 oil pastel drawings. -- undated.
 - 1.13.1 Drawing for costume for Mrs. Alving. Actor Barbara Meiklejohn.
 - 1.13.2 Drawing for costume for Engstrand. Actor Jim.
 - 1.13.3 Drawing for costume for Osvald. Actor John Heath.
 - 1.13.4 Drawing for costume for Pastor Manders. Actor Anthony Jenkins.
 - 1.13.4 Drawing for costume for Regina. Actor Bonnie Campbell.
- 1.14 A Midsummer Night's Dream. -- Preliminary drawings-- 4 watercolor collages. -- undated
 - 1.14.1 Collage depicting costumes for the following parts: Hermia, Helena, Lysander, Demetrius, E Geus.
 - 1.14.2 Collage depicting costumes for the following parts: Philostrate, Theseus, Hippolyta, Hippolyta attendant.
 - 1.14.3 Collage depicting costumes for the following parts: Indian boy, Titania, Oberon, Oberon's fairy.
 - 1.14.4 Collage depicting costumes for the following parts: Oberon.

Folder 2 (PB 168)

13 slides of 3 unidentified productions, in an envelope entitled "Peter Mannering."