Costume design - The Seagull

Object: Costume design

Place of origin: Great Britain (made)

Date: 1970 (made)

Artist/Maker: Annals, Michael, born 1938 - died 1990 (theatre designers)

Materials and Techniques: Watercolour, ink, pencil and crayon on paper

Credit Line: Bequeathed by Michael Annals

Museum number: S.420-1991

Gallery location: In Storage

Public access description


Michael Annals (1938-1990) trained at Hornsey College of Art and began his career designing sets and costumes for the Old Vic. In 1963 the newly formed National Theatre Company moved into the Old Vic and Annals joined them, having his first major success with his designs for Peter Shaffer's historical epic, The Royal Hunt of the Sun (1964). He went on to have an international career, designing for the theatre and for ballet, opera and film, but is most closely associated with the National Theatre, where he created notable settings for a range of productions, including O'Neill's Long Day's Journey into Night starring Laurence Olivier, Hecht and MacArthur's The Front Page and Shaw's Heartbreak House. Annals frequently worked in the United States and was Associate Professor of Scenic Design at Yale in 1966-1967. In 1984 he gave up the stage and took up photography and illustration.

Descriptive line

Costume design by Michael Annals for Irina Arkadina in Act II of Anton Chekhov's play, The Seagull, Habima Theatre, Tel Aviv, 1970

Physical description

Costume design for Irina Arkadina Treplev in Act II of The Seagull. Full length female figure wearing a pale turquoise dress under a white and turquoise striped overdress with an attached lace cape at the shoulders. She carries a parasol in her right hand. With pencil annotations by the artist, giving details of fabrics, and pencil sketches of the cape, right. A fabric swatch has been detached by Conservation and is housed in a separate wallet.

Dimensions

Height: 56 cm, Width: 38.3 cm

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URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1181722/the-seagull-costume-design-annals-michael/