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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947-1948 January 20 - April 18, 1948

THE TRIUMPH OF BACCHUS AND ARIADNE. February 1948, New York. Scenery and costumes: Corrado Cagli Music: Vittorio Rieti Choreography: George Balanchine

Selection of sketches

THE FOUR TEMPERAMENTS. November 1946, New York. Setting and costumes: Kurt 5 ligmenn Music: Paul Hindemith Choreography: George Balanchine

Drawing for Backdrop

2 Costume sketches

THE MEDIUM. February 1947, New York.
Setting and costumes: Horace Armistead
Music and libretto: Gian-Carlo Menotti

Transparency for backdrop Detail drawing for door Sketch for setting

THE MINOTAUR. March 1947, New York Setting and costumes: Joan Junyer Music: Elliott Carter Choreography: John Taras

> Model for setting Costume for Greek Boys Costume for Minotaur Costume for King Minos Costume for Creten Worker Costume for Theseus Costume for Pasiphae Costume for Ariadne Costume for Pasiphae

PUNCH AND THE CHILD. November 1947, New York. Settings and costumes: Horace Armistead Music: Richard Arnell Choreography: Fred Danieli

Costume for Sweeper Costume for Peg Leg

Backdrop for Prologue Costume for Fishwife Costume for Vender Costume for Child Costume for Mother Costume for Puppeteer

LE kENARD. January 1947, New York. Settings and costumes: Esteban Frances Music and libretto: Igor Strawinsky Choreography: George Bolenchine

Masks for the Cat, the Ram, the Fox and the Cock Costume sketches for the Cat, the Ram, the Fox and the cock Drawing for backdrop

THE SEASONS. May 1947, New York. Setting and costumes: Isamu Noguchi Music: John Cage Choreography: Merce Cunningham

2 Photographs of setting

ZODIAG. March 1947, New York. Setting and costumes: Esteban Frances Music: Rudi Revil Choreography: Todd Bolender

Model for setting Costume for Leo Costume for Aries

Costume for Teurus Costume for Sun Costume for Capricorn

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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### DESIGNS FOR BALLET SOCIETY SHOWN AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Under the auspices of its Department of Theatre Design, the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, will open on January 21 an exhibition of the designs for costumes and scenery commissioned by Ballet Society of New York for its productions during the past year and a half. The present exhibition includes approximately fifty original drawings for costumes and scenery, several scale models, and the original masks worn by the four characters of Renard. Artists represented include Kurt Seligmann, Joan Junyer, Horace armistead, Estaban Francés, Isamu Noguchi and Corrado Cagli. The exhibition will remain on view through April 18.

Bellet Society, an educational institution dedicated to creating new works in the field of the dance and lyric theatre, stages only the first performance of new or unfamiliar works. Following the precendent established by Diaghelev in the first quarter of this century, it has commissioned works from many outstanding artists, hitherto unknown in the theatre, and has presented stage design by leading easel-painters of the new generation.

George Amberg, Curator of the Museum's Department of Theatre Arts, comments on the exhibition as follows:

"It is always extremely interesting to compare an artist's original sketches with the costumes and settings as they are finally seen on the stage. Sometimes theatrical drawings appear uninspired because they merely provide accurate technical information for the craftsmen who are going to execute them. In the case of easel artists working for the theatre, however, the immediate artistic appeal of the sketches is very strong. The present exhibition reveals an extraordinarily high level of achievement on the part of the artists and it is significant because it introduces to the world of the theatre talent which has never served it before. Whether the designs are spontaneous suggestions or drawn in meticulous detail, they all reflect a fresh and provocative approach to the problems of theatre design.

"The work of the artists shown confirms again the soundness of Diaghelev's principles, if applied with taste and discrimination. Kurt Seligmann had already experimented in the dance field with his fantastic costumes for the Hanya Holm production, The Golden Fleece. For Ballet Society's, The Four Temperaments, (Music by Paul Hindemith; Choreography-George Balanchine) he has conceived a backcloth of overwhelming dramatic power and unforgettably weird costumes. Estaban Frances was unknown in the theatre until he designed the exquisite setting and costumes for the Heieff-Bolender ballet, Zodiac. Joan Junyer, already known to the ballet public for his designs for The Cuckold's Fair, realized an interesting experiment for the Carter-Teres ballet, Minotaur. Horace Armistead, a well known designer of long standing, created a theatrically unforgettable environment for

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-2-

the Gian-Carlo Menotti opera,  $\underline{\text{The Medium}},$  which was also very successful on Broadway.  $^{\text{II}}$ 

Ballet Society encourages the work of younger muscians as well as younger dancers, who collaborate with the painters whose work is now shown in the Auditorium Gallery of the Museum of Modern Art. The repertory of works commissioned or first performed by Ballet Society include Renard the Fox by Stravinsky; The Spellbound Child by Ravel; The Four Temperaments by Paul Hindemith; The Medium by Gian-Carlo Menotti, and The Seasons by John Cage, as well as The Minotaur by Elliott Carter, Jr. and Punch and the Child by Richard Arnell. These works were staged by the choreographers George Balanchine, Merce Cunningham, John Taras and Fred Danieli.

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From January through April, the Museum of Modern Art is presenting in its Theatre Arts Department, a selection of designs for settings and costumes commissioned by the Ballet Society. The Ballet Society, organized with the express purpose of encouraging the ballet and the lyric theatre by the production of new works, already has a fine record of achievement. It has presented many new works of interest, distinguished not only from the performing point of view, but particularly from the consistently high standard of design.

Following the precedent established by Diaghelev in the first decade of this century, the Ballet Society has commissioned works from many outstanding artists, hitherto unknown in the theatre. Their work proved of constant interest, and confirmed again the soundness of Diaghelev's principles, if applied with taste and discrimination. Kurt Seligmann had already experimented in the dance field with his fantastic costumes for the Hanya Holm production, The Golden Fleece. For Ballet Society's, The Four Temperaments, (Music by Paul Hindemith; Choreography-George Balanchine) he has conserved a backcloth of overwhelming dramatic power and unforgettably weird costumes. Esteban Francés was unknown until he designed the exquisite setting and costumes for Stravinsky's Renerd, and the fantastic decor and costumes for the Haieff-Bolender ballet, Zodiac. Joan Junyer, already known to the ballet public for his designs for The Guckold's Fair, realized an interesting experiment for the Carter-Taras ballet, Minotaur. Horace Armistead, a well known designer of long standing, created a theatrically unforgettable environment for the Gian-Garlo Menotti opera, The Medium, which was also very successful on Broadway.

Approximately

The present exhibition includes/fifty drawings, several models, and some of the original masks worn by the four characters of Renard.

the Ballet Scolety" [MoMA Exh. #368, January 20-April 18,

Ranoned LT 09.18.2018

Classification: Ephemera
Date Label: 1948
Credit Line: Dance Archives II.37 The Museum of Modern Art Archives.

New York

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The Museum of Modern Art and The Ballet Society invite you to the private opening of an exhibition of

stage designs

for the

ballet society

1947-48

Tuesday, January 20, 1948

5:00 to 7:00 o'clock

11 West 53 Street, New York This card will admit two Ex

ork Auditorium Gallery Exhibition closes April 18

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	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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With this exhibition the Department of Theatre Arts continues to policy of presenting to the public theatrical design of artistic merit. It is always interesting to compare the artist's rendering with the executed settings and costumes, the artist's vision with the performance on the stage. Although many of these drawings seem to be uninspired because they merely supply accurate information for the craftsmen who are to execute the decor and the costumes. However, an frequently these sketches have allockes immediate appeal of regardless of their practical purpose. This applies particularly in the ballet and the lyric theatre which often permit a greater freedom of imagination than the more realistic dramatic stage. In this the ballet follows a tradition established by Diaghilev this who dominated the ballet scene since the first decade of man century. He introduced distinguished easel painters as stage designers and thus created a trend which is reflected in the more recent productions in this field.

The present exhibition brings a selection of original and stimulating work commissioned by The Ballet Society. Ballet Society was organized with the express purpose of encouraging the lyric theatre by the production of new works. These productions, presented during its two initial seasons have demonstrated consistently a high level of achievement and should be presented to a larger audience than was privileged to see the original productions. Many outstanding artists mostly unknown in the field of the theatre have contributed works of outstanding interest. Whether sketchily or carefully detailed all these projects reveal the same spirit of theatrical spontaneity and are stimulating creations in their own right. It should never be forgotten, however, that the theatre requires both the useful and the beautiful.

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With this exhibition the Department of Theatre Arts continues its policy of presenting the public theatrical design of artistic merit. The present trend on the dramatic stage is predominantly realistic and from the point of design of no great interest. In recent years the more imaginative design has been presented on the ballet stage and in the lyric theatre.

The Ballet Society organized with the express purpose to encourage the lyric theatre by the production of new works is now in its second year season. The works presented during its two seasons have demonstrated the consistently high level of achievement. Designers of high standing and outstanding artists, some hitherto unknown in the theatre, have contributed works of outstanding interest. This exhibition brings a selection of the most stimulating productions.

sented on the stage.

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INTRODUCTORY LABEL FOR STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY 1948

The works selected for this exhibition are significant examples of fresh and progressive tendencies in the theatre. They have been commissioned by The Ballet Society for performances of the ballet and the lyric theatre presented for the first time on the American stage. The Ballet Society is an educational institution dedicated to creating new works in the field of the dance and lyric theatre. Every work commissioned by The Ballet Society is a living example of the collective spirit characteristic of the theatre arts. This is demonstrated by the unity of style achieved by the collaboration of composer, choreographer and scenic artist, in The Ballet Society productions. The Museum of Modern Art is pleased to be able to present these designs which are not ordinarily accessible to the public, thus affording an opportunity for the ballet audience to compare the artists' original concepts with the practical realization as pre-

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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#### BALLET SOCIETY DESIGNS AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The Department of Theatre Design at the Museum of Modern Art, is opening on January 20, an exhibition of the designs for costumes and scenery commissioned by Ballet Society of New York for its productions over the last year and a half. Ballet Society is an educational institution dedicated to creating new works in the field of the dance and lyric theatre. It stages only the first performances of new or unfamiliar works, and it has presented stage design by leading easel-painters of the new generation.

The repertory of works commissioned or first performed by

Ballet Society include Remard the Fox, by Strawinsky; The Spellbound

Child by Maurice Ravel; The Four Temperaments by Paul Hindemith; The

Medium by Gian-Carlo Menotti, and The Seasons by John Cage, as well as

The Minotaur by Elliott Carter Jr. and Punch and the Child by Richard

Arnell. These works were staged by the choreographers George Balanchine,

Merce Cunningham, John Taras and Fred Danieli.

Ballet Society encourages the work of younger musicians as well as younger dancers, who collaborate with the painters whose work is now shown in the Auditorium Gallery of the Museum of Modern Art. The artists represented in this show are <u>Horace Armistead</u>, <u>Corrado Cagli</u>, <u>Esteban</u>

Frances, <u>Joan Junyer</u>, <u>Isamu Noguchi</u>, <u>Kurt Saligmann</u>. The exhibition comprises original drawings for costumes and scenery and scale models.

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STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET -2-EXT - Explanatory Label

Mr. Amberg, the Director of the Museum's Department of Theatre
Arts, says of this exhibition:

the new generation in stage design, rather than designers accustomed "It is always extremely interesting to compare an artist's to work in the commercial theatre original sketches with the costumes and settings as they are finally The designs which comprise this axhibition were all comseen on the stage. Sometimes theatrical drawings appear uninspired missioned during the last year and a half by Ballet Society, as edubecause they merely provide accurate technical information for the cational institution dedicated to the orention of new works in the craftsmen who are going to execute them. In the case of easel artists working for the theatre, however, the immediate artistic appeal of George Balanchine, Leon Bersin and Lincoln Kirstein, the sketches is very strong. The present exhibition reveals an a sery work commissioned by Ballet Society exemplifies the extraordinarily high level of achievement on the part of the artists collective spirit essential to /theatre arts: componer, choreographer and it is significant because it introduces to the world of the and scenic artist all collaborate to schieve a drumatic and visual theatre talent which has never served it before. Whether the unity of style. designs are spontaneous suggestions or drawn in meticulous detail, . The Museum's Department of Theatre Arts is pleased to be they all reflect a fresh and provocative approach to the problems of able to present these original designs by the collaborating article, thus affording the compare an opportunity to compare the theatre design."

It should be mentioned that all of the easel-painters who have been commissioned to do stage design are members of the union of the United Scenic Artists, Local 802, New York City, and are all technically equipped to create their own designs with brush and paint.

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STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY -- Explanatory Label

2. Ballet Society stages only first performances of new or unfamiliar works and it has attempted to involve leading easel painters of the new generation in stage design, rather than designers accustomed to work in the commercial theatre.

The designs which comprise this exhibition were all commissioned during the last year and a half by Ballet Society, an educational institution dedicated to the creation of new works in the field of the dance and the lyric theatre, under the leadership of George Balanchine, Leon Barzin and Lincoln Kirstein,

The Every work commissioned by Ballet Society exemplifies the the collective spirit essential to theatre arts: composer, choreographer and scenic artist all collaborate to achieve a dramatic and visual unity of style.

The Museum's Department of Theatre Arts is pleased to be able to present these original designs by the collaborating artists, thus affording the hallet audience an opportunity to compare the artist's original concepts with the practical realization they have seen on the stage. The works shown here are significant examples of fresh and progressive tendencies in the contemporary theatre.

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#### INTRODUCTORY LABEL FOR BALLET SOCIETY SHOW

This exhibition is particularly interesting because it demonstrates the merits of closely planned cooperation between the actual stage, its contributing artists and the Museum of Modern Art as a showcase for the aspects of this work which are not ordinarily accessible to the public. This affords a rare opportunity for the ballet audience to compare the artists' original concepts with the practical realization as presented on the stage.

The works selected for this show are significant examples of fresh and progressive tendencies in the theatre. They have been commissioned by The Ballet Society for performances of the ballet and the lyric theatre presented for the first time on the American stage. The Ballet Society is an educational institution dedicated to creating new works in the field of the dance and lyric theatre. Every work commissioned by The Ballet Society is a living example of the collective spirit characteristic for the theatre arts. This is demonstrated by the unity of style achieved by the collaboration of composer, choreographer and scenic artist.

Ballet Society encourages the work of potnger ansicians as well as younger dancers, who collaborate with the painters whose work is now

Muros Cunningham, John Taras and Fred Banieli.

shown in the Anditorium Gallery of the Husenn of Hodern Art. The artists to

Frances, and Soruse Armintand. The exhibition comprises original drawing for continue and economy and accompanying them, photographs of the natural

riage-performance to Assessing the realization of the collaborations be-

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## BALLET SOCIETY DESIGNS AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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The repertory of works commissioned or first performed by

Ballet Society include Renard the Fox, by Strawinsky; The Spellbound

Child by Maurice Ravel; The Four Temperaments by Paul Hindemith; The

Medium by Gian-Carlo Menotti, and The Seasons by John Cage, as well as

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Arnell. These works were staged by the choreographers George Balanchine,

Merce Cunningham, John Taras and Fred Danieli.

Ballet Society encourages the work of younger musicians as well as younger dancers, who collaborate with the painters whose work is now shown in the Auditorium Gallery of The Museum of Modern Art. The artists are Corrado Cagli, Kurt Seligmann, Joan Junyer, Isamu Noguchi, Esteban Frances, and Horace Armistead. The exhibition comprises original drawings mask for costumes and scenery, and accompanying them, photographs of the actual stage-performance to demonstrate the realization of the collaborations between dancer and designer, costumer and scene painter.

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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THE FOUR TEMPERAMENTS:

Music: Paul Hindemith
Choreography: George Belanchine
Setting: Kurt Seligmann
Costumes: Kurt Seligmann
November 20, 1946. Central High Se

November 20, 1946, Central High School of Needle Trades, New York City

#### RENARD:

Music: Igor Stravinsky
Book: Igor Stravinsky; translated by Harvey Officer:
Choreography: George Balanchine
Setting: Esteban Frances
Costumes: Esteban Frances
Jan. 13 and 14, 1947, Hunter College Playhouse, New York City

#### THE MEDIUM:

Music: Gian-Carlo Menotti Setting: Horace Armistead Costumes: Horace Armistead February 18, 1947, Children's Centre Playhouse, New York City

#### THE MINOTAUR:

Music: Elliott Carter
Choreography: John Taras
Setting: Joan Junyer
Costumes: Joan Junyer
March 26, 1947, The Central High School of Needle Trades, New York City

#### ZODIAC:

Music: Rudi Revil
Choreography: Todd Belender
Setting: Esteban Francés
Costumes: Esteban Francés
March 26, 1947, The Central High School of Needle Trades, New York City

#### THE SEASONS:

Music: John Cage Choreography: Merce Cunningham Setting: Isamu Noguchi Costumes: Isamu Noguchi May 18, 1947, The Ziegfeld Theatre, New York City

#### PUNCH AND THE CHILD:

Music: Richard Arnell
Choreography: Fred Danieli
Setting: Horace Armistead
Costumes: Horace Armistead
November 12, 1947, Theatre of the City Center of Music & Drama, New York C.

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Invitation

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THE FOUR TEMPERAMENTS:

Music: Paul Hindemith

Choreography: George Balanchine Setting: Kurt Seligmann

Costumes: Kurt Seligmann
November 20, 1946, Central High School of Needle Trades, New York City

TRACESTS. Wovember 1966, Was Novik RENARD:

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Choreography: John Taras

Setting: Joan Junyer

Costumes: Joan Junyer
March 26, 1947, The Central High School of Needle Trades, New York City

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Music: Rudi Revil
Choreography: Todd Belender
Setting: Esteban Francés
Costumes: Esteban Francés March 26, 1947, The Central High School of Needle Trades, New York City

THE SEASONS:

Music: John Cage

Choreography: Merce Cunningham

Setting: Isamu Noguchi
Costumes: Isamu Noguchi

May 18, 1947, The Ziegfeld Theatre, New York City

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Charmagnatha - Estates Preside

Man market state our Burn

Choreography: Fred Danieli

PUNCH AND THE CHILD:

Music: Richard Arnell

Choreography:
Setting: Horace Armistead

Costumes: Horace Armistead

November 12, 1947, Theatre of the City Center of Music & Drama , New York C.

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STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947-1948

January 20, 1948 - April 18, 1948

THE TRIUMPH OF BACCHUS AND ARIADNE. February, 1948, New York. Scenery and costumes: Corrado Cagli Music: Vittorio Rieti Choreography: George Balanchine

Selection of sketches

THE FOUR TEMPERAMENTS. November 1946, New York.

Scenery and costumes: Esteban Francés Music: Paul Hindemith Choreography: George Balanchine

Mary Backdrop

2 costumes

THE MEDIUM. Februrary 1947, New York.

Scenery and costumes: Horace Armistead Music: Gian-Carlo Menotti Transparency Skatza for ectoplasm hacking Detail for door

Sketch for sett ng

THE MINOTAUR. March 1947, New York.

Scenery and costumes: Joan Junyer Musica Elliott Carter Choreography: John Taras

Model for setting Costume for Greek Boys Costume for Minotaur Costume for Minotaur Costume for Kind Minos
Costume for Creatan Worker Costume for Theseus Costume for Pasiphae Costume for Ariadne

PUNCH AND THE CHILD. November, 1947, New York.

Scenery and costumes: Horace Armistead Musid: Richard Arnell Choreography: Fred Danieli

Costume for Fishwife Backdrop for Prologue Costume for Vender Costume for Father Costume for Puppeteer Costume for Sweeper Costume for Peg Leg

LE RENARD. January 1947, New York.

Settings and costumes: Esteban Francés Music and libretto: Igor Strawinsky Choreography: Esteban Francés

Masks and costume sketches for the Cat, the Ram, The Fox and the Cock Drawing for backdrop

THE SEASONS. May, 1947, New York

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Setting and costumes: Isamu Noguchi Music: John Cage Choreography: Merce Cunningham

2 photographs of setting

ZODIAC. March 1947, New York

Setting and costumes: Esteban Francés
Music: Rudi Reveil
Choreography: Todd Bolender

Jamas

Model for setting Costume for Leo Costume for Secreto Comi usu

THE TRIUMPH OF BACCHUS AND ARIADNE February 1948, New York

Settings: Corrado Cagli

Costumes: Corrado Cagli

Music: Vittorio Rieti

Choreography: George Balanchine

THE MEDIUM February 1947, New York

Setting: Horace Armistead

Costumes: Horace Armistead

Music: Gian-Carlo Menotti

Libratto: Sian-Carle Menstil

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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cc: Miss Dudley

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THE TRIUMPH OF BACCHUS AND ARIADNE February 1948, New York

Settings:

Corrado Cagli

Costumes:

Corrado Cagli

Music:

Vittorio Rieti

Choreography: George Balanchine

THE MEDIUM

February 1947, New York

Setting: Horace Armistead

Costumes: Horace Armistead

Music: Gian-Carlo Menotti

Libretto: Gian-Carlo Menotti

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cc: Miss Dudley

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MODE MODE ON B MASK

MODEL FOR SETTING

TRANSPARENCY FOR BACKDROP

SKETCH FOR SETTING

DETAIL DRAWING FOR DOOR

LE RENARD

January 1947, New York

Setting: Esteban Francés

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cc: Miss Dudley

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LE RENARD

January 1947, New York

Setting: Esteban Francés Costumes: Esteban Francés

Music: Igor Strawinsky
Libretto: Igor Strawinsky

Choreography: George Balanchine

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MODEL FOR SETTING

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cc: Miss Dudley

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MODEL FOR SETTING

MODEL FOR SETTING. PHOTO BY RUDOLPH BURCKHARDT.

MODEL FOR SETTING. PHOTO BY

MODEL FOR SETTING. PHOTO BY RUDOLPH BURCKHARDT.

ON BACK WALL;

ON BACK WALL:
MASKS FOR CAT, RAM, FOX AND COCK
EXECUTED BY MME. KARINSKA

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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cc: Miss Dudley

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# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date\_\_Jan. 23,1948

To: MISS DUDLEY

From: MISS PLESHKOVA

Re: BALLET SOCIETY

We are taking down the two Seligman costume sketches for
FOUR TEMPERAMENTS. These are #47.1353-3 and #47,1353-5.
These can be returned to Ballet Society with the other
material we are not using.

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II .37

cc: Miss Dudley

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P Y

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

our Jean Volkmer

Date Jan. 23, 1948

To: Mr. Wheeler Dudley

Re: Ballet Society Exhibition

From: Miss Pleshkova.

The order and the bill attached are for the two Noguchi photographs Dear Miss Duiley

used in the exhibition.
I have just spoken to Jack Melville of Sallet Society about having the pointings and sketches removed from their mounts. He says this will be alright if we return the mounts to them after the exhibition,

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Dance	II 37

cc: Miss Dudley

C O P

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Hr. Maburg

cc: Jean Volkmer

To: Dorothy H. Dudley

From: Nika Pleshkova

Date\_ Nanuary 7, 1948

Re:

Dear Miss Dudley:

I have just spoken to Jack Melville of Ballet Society about having the paintings and sketches removed from their mounts. He says this will be alright if we return the mounts to them after the exhibition.

Should rope off the first taxes year in the context for special grants, to the partition for the first part of the progress should be the lecture with light, five excite, electure of safer & glasses. Regular house higher stall be made. The stage will be elected after the souting for the latter part of the progress, a deconstruction. We haven with not reach on Sendar regarding the lighting for this.

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Dance	II.37

cc: Miss Dudley

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# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

cc: Miss Ulrich Mr. Amberg L Front Desk Bob Faeth

To: Mr. Warren

From: Allen Porter

Date January 2, 1948

Re: American Dance committee

meeting Jan. 5

The American Dance Committee will hold a meeting in the auditorium on Monday evening, January 5, at 8:30 ofclock.

Invitations have been issued, but it is not necessary to present invitations for admittance. However, we cannot allow standing room.

Please rope off the first three rows in the center for special guests. On the platform for the first part of the program should be the lecturn with light, five chairs, pitcher of water & glasses. Regular house lights will be used. The stage will be cleared after the meeting for the latter part of the program, a demonstration. Mr. Amberg will check with Bob Fasth on Monday regarding the lighting for this.

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

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	Dance	II .37

cc: Miss Dudley

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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Datescarbor 8, 1047

To: Miss Newmeyer

Frommr. Amberg

Re: Photographs for Ballet

Society Exhibition

Dear Miss Newmeyer,

I have the photographs for the forthcoming exhibition, Stage Designs for The Ballet Society, from which you can choose the ones you would like to use. Since Ballet Society owns the negatives, it may take a little while to have prints made up.

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN

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Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Dance	II .37

cc: Miss Dudley

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

cc: Miss Hawkins

Date December 5, 1947

To:

From:

Mr. Amberg

Mr. Wheeler

Mr. d'Harnoncourt
Miss Ulrich
Mr. Porter
Miss Newmeyer
Miss Volkmer
Miss Dudley
Mr. Warren

Re: Dalet Statety whitest

Stage Designs for the Ballet Society

The title for the new Theatre Arts show will be:

STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY 1947-48

and the dates have been changed from January 6th - April 4th to

January 20th - April 18th. The exhibition will be held in the

Auditorium Gallery. Jean Volkmer will be in charge of the design
and installation.

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Dance	II 37

cc: Miss Dudley

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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date June 25, 1947

To:

Mr. Amberg

From:

Frances Keech

Re: Ballet Society exhibition

Mr. Porter has planned for sometime to devote an issue of the BULLETIN to Theatre Arts. However, in view of budget limitations restricting him to four issues a year -- fall, winter, spring and summer -- the plans for these issues are in abeyance pending further discussion.

I have had a letter from Lincoln Eirstein asking whether we want to

Mr. Wheeler is dining with Mr. Kirstein tonight and will speak to him about the designs commissioned for the Ballet Society.

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

Series.Folder: Collection: The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY Dance II .37

cc: Miss Dudley

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# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

June 12, 1947

To:

From:

Mr. Wheeler

Re: Lincoln Kirstein

I have had a letter from Lincoln Kirstein asking whether we want to consider an exhibition of work by modern artists done for the Ballet Society. I agree with you that the most interesting artists he has used are Esteban Frances, Joan Junyer, Kurt Seligmann and, of course, Tchelitchew, if he really does the projected Orpheus.

If you will let me know when you think this might be undertaken, we can plan a reply to Kirstein.

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Dance	II .37

cc: Miss Dudley

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JERSONY HZ., 1983

Stage Designs for the Ballet Society 1947-1948 Jan. 20 - april 13

Sincerely yours,

Nika Plashkova

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

Dest Total IV, N. N.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Dance	II 37

cc: Miss Dudley

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Season by 22, 1965

February 5, 1948

Dear Mr. Melville:

Let me express our gratitude and thanks for your very great help and cooperation with the assembling of The Ballet Society show.

We have already returned the material which unfortunately we were unable to include in the show. Would you be good enough to sign the enclosed receipt for this material and return it to us.

Thank you again for your invaluable assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Nika Pleshkova

Mr. John Melville, Jr. The Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 1 9, New York

Miga Frances Scotting

of Palist Cockety 131 West 57 Street New York 59, N. Y.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Dance	II.37

BALLET SOCIETY, INC.

anten

January 22, 1948 December 18, 1947.

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, New York.

> ATTENTION: Mr. George Amberg.

Dear Frances;

Dear Mr. Amberg: We have answered Mr. Rothberg's request with regard

We have answered Mr. Rothberg's request with regard to the possible circulation of the exhibition. This will confirm Ballet Society's

Would you be good enough to inform him with regard to purchase of the drawings, seum of Modern Art for EXHIBITION: STACE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOSincerely, 347-1348, to go on tour with the exception of the four costume masks for the

ballet, REMARD.

Miss Frances Hawkins c/o Ballet Society 113 West 57 Street New York 19, N. Y.

GA/gr JCM/be

John C. MELVILLE, JR.

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II.37

# BALLET SOCIETY, INC.

A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF LYRIC THEATRE BY THE PRODUCTION OF NEW WORKS

amberg

George Balanchine, Artistic Director Leon Barzin, Musical Director Lincoln Kirstein, Secretary Frances Hawkins, Executive Manager

December 18, 1947.

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, New York.

> ATTENTION: Mr. George Amberg.

Dear Mr. Amberg:

This will confirm Ballet Society's willingness to permit the articles loaned to the Museum of Modern Art for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947-1948, to go on tour with the exception of the four costume masks for the ballet, RENARD.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Melville, Jr.

JCM/bc

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

Collection: Series.Folder:

Dance

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## BALLET SOCIETY, INC.

A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF LYRIC THEATRE BY THE PRODUCTION OF NEW WORKS

George Balanchine, Artistic Director Leon Barzin, Musical Director Lincoln Kirsteln, Secretary Frances Hawkins, Executive Manager

December 3, 1947.

George Amberg, Esq., The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York 19, New York.

Dear Mr. Amberg:

With this letter I am turning over to you the photographs you designated in our Yearbook 1946-1947. There is a total of thirty-one (31) photographs.

The other material - masks, costume sketches, and model sets - will be delivered as quickly as we can get them.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Melville, Jr.

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

Collection: Series.Folder:

Dance

T. 37

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date December 3, 1947

To:

Miss Dudley

From:

Nika

Re: Ballet Society

Exhibition

Dear Miss Dudley,

Ballet Society will try to deliver to us by the end of this week 4 masks from Renard and some more black and white costume sketches from Punch and the Child.

December 5, 1947.

Although you have the green slip for the Armistead backdrop for Punch and the Child, it was not included in the group picked up at Ballet Society today. It will be delivered with the above material.

I am sending with this letter the material you selected yesterday when you were here in our offices.

I am arranging tomorrow, Thursday, to obtain the models of the ballets we discussed and to find out of if it is at all possible to loan the models for FAR HARBOUR and BEAUTY & TER BEAST.

We shall try to deliver to you by the end of this week the four (4) masks from REMARD and the remainder of the black and white costume sketches from PUNCH AND THE CHILD.

If there is anything additional you find you need , will you kindly call me here at the office ?

Sincerely yours,

John C. Melville, Jr.

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

Collection: Series.Folder:

Dance

To 37

## BALLET SOCIETY, INC.

A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF LYRIC THEATRE BY THE PRODUCTION OF NEW WORKS

George Balanchine, Artistic Director Leon Barzin, Musical Director Lincoln Kirstein, Secretary Frances Hawkins, Executive Manager

December 3, 1947.

George Amberg, Esq., The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Amberg:

I am sending with this letter the material you selected yesterday when you were here in our offices.

I am arranging tomorrow, Thursday, to obtain the models of the ballets we discussed and to find out of if it is at all possible to loan the models for FAR HARBOUR and BEAUTY & THE BEAST.

We shall try to deliver to you by the end of this week the four (4) masks from RENARD and the remainder of the black and white costume sketches from PUNCH AND THE CHILD.

If there is anything additional you find you need , will you kindly call me here at the office ?

Sincerely yours,

John C. Melville, Jr.

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	正.37	

WE MUSEUM OF MODERN ARY

December 3, 1947

Dear Miss Dellay,

May Dodley

Dear Lincolns had at yesterday was ready to be picked up. He thought the natural could be brought over in a tani. The address is Sallet Society,

Thanks for giving me the free choice of the beautiful designs commissioned for Ballet Society. I am looking forward to the exhibition and am very anxious to give it the representative character it deserves, but I am sorry that we cannot have more of the designs prepared for the current season.

Mr. Molvilla of Dullet Scately just talaphonoi to may that the material

I would therefore appreciate it if you could arrange both with the artists and the workshops for us to have at least a selection of settings and costumes for the ballets now in preparation. This applies particularly to Dorothea Tanning's designs, and to "Beauty and the Beast". I am also very anxious to have the model for "Far Harbor".

Letts get together soon to decide on the final selection and the installation. We have precious little time considering that the Christmes holidays will come between our preparation and the opening.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Mr. Lincoln Kirstein Ballet Society 130 West 56th Street New York, N. Y.

GA/gr

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

Collection: Series.Folder:

Dance

TI 37

### THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date December 3, 1947

To: Miss Dudley

From: Nika

Re: Ballet Society Exhibition

Dear Miss Dudley,

Mr. Melville of Ballet Society just telephoned to say that the material Mr. Amberg looked at yesterday was ready to be picked up. He thought the material could be brought over in a taxi. The address is Ballet Society, 130 West 56 Street.

Mr. Melville has the green slips. He will send us a listing of the rest of the material now in storage, such as models.

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	Collection:	Series.Folder:
The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II .37

Seleguesea Josha E Unrestau Gearly & the Geart 1947 Dear I I am r h red should ints for check like t distri r would assume I woul cause Many t Miss F Ballet 130 We New Yo GA:np

	Collection:	Series.Folder:	
The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	正.37	

December 2, 1947

#### Dear Frances:

I am returning the Ballet Society Yearbook to you with red check marks on 31 photographs which we would need. I should like to have one complete set from which to select prints for distribution and for the press preview. Miss Newmeyer would assume expenses for these subsequent prints.

I would appreciate your prompt attention to this matter, because the time left before the show is growing so short.

Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Miss Frances Hawkins Ballet Society 130 West 56 Street New York 19, New York

GA:np

	Collection:	Series.Folder:	
The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II .37	

KIRSTEIN

November 6, 1947

Dear Lincoln:

Now that we have finished the exhibition, ELEMENTS OF STAGE DESIGN, I am anxious to get started on the Ballet Society show. I would appreciate it if you would call me at your earliest convenience in order to make definitive selections of the drawings and models to be included in the show.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Lincoln Kirstein Ballet Society 130 West 56th Street New York City, N. Y. Jalut w.

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

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II. 37

# DANCE

AMERICA'S LEADING DANCE PUBLICATION . 520 WEST 34th STREET, NEW YORK I, N. Y. . LONGACRE 3-2316

December 29

#### George!

I hope you are not trying to frighten me by hiding that stuff on the Exhibition of Ballet Society, which you were going to send me, remember? Because if you are, you've done alright. Now I am scared, now that I notice that I am two weeks behind the deadline for the February issue and haven't got any of it. What say?

Perhaps I never thought to mention the deadline date in my habitual less than crystal clear method of communication.

When can I hope to see same and accompanying paragraph of introduction from the pen of George Amberg ( I prefer typewriter)?

Shall I come over? Or will you do anything to keep me out of your hair?

Meaningfully,

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
	Dance	II 37

January 22, 1948

Dear Mr. Rothberg:

As you have been informed before by Mr. McCray, we have considered a circulation of the Ballet Society Exhibition. However, we decided to wait for a time, in order to be able to make the exhibition more inclusive and to add new material which has been commissioned in the meantime. As soon as the show is ready for rental, we shall be happy to send you a catalog for your information.

Many of the drawings exhibited are for sale. However, I am not informed on either prices or conditions. I am, therefore, forwarding your letter to the Ballet Society.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Howard Perry Rothberg II Petroleum Service, Inc. 7720 West Chicago Blvd. Detroit 4, Michigan

GA/gr

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY

Collection: Series.Folder:

Dance

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THE MUDELING OF MODERN ART

- Junuary 20 - April 18, 1947

month on this back of this receipt.

cc: Mr. Amberg

The Mark Court of Later have lines received by The Measure of Modern Art as loom ender a market of

January 16, 1948

Dear Mr. Rothberg:

In reply to your request of January 12th, the exhibition of "Stage Designs for the Ballet Society" has so far not been scheduled for a showing in Detroit. If this exhibition is circulated it will be offered not earlier than the fall of 1948.

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON OF THE SELLES WARRING, 1967 - 1968

There is to be no catalogue of the exhibition but I have referred your letter requesting the availability and price of paintings and drawings to our Department of Theatre Arts.

Sincerely,

Porter A. McCray

Mr. Howard Perry Rothberg, II Petroleum Service, Inc. 7720 West Chicago Blvd. Detroit 4, Michigan

PAM: mss

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:	
	Dance	II .37	

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Date December 16, 1947

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From Ballet Society, Inc.
130 West 56th Street
New York, New York

for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947 - 1948 January 20 - April 18, 1947

Museum Number				Desc	ription			115	Insur Va	
47.1398	Frances: 1	nodel f	or ball	let ZOD	TAC				12	5000
47.1399	Armistead:	backdr	op for	PURCH	& THE	CHIL	o, ink		5	0000
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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

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#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From The Ballet Society, Inc. 130 West 56th Street New York, Hew York

for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947 - 1948 January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number	Description	Insurance Value
17.1373.1	Armistead: Costume sketch for Punch & the Child, Father, ink	\$ 50.00
47.1573.2	s a a a a s Vender	50.00
47.1373.3	o a a a a Child "	50.00
47.1373.4	n n n n n n Sweeper "	50.00
47.1373.5	p a a a a a Pishwife "	50.00
47.1373.6	a a a a a a Panch wo	50.00
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#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From The Ballet Society, Inc. 130 West 56th Street New York, New York

for EXHIBITION: BALLET DESIGN: Decors and Costumes for The Ballet Society January 6 - April 4, 1948

Museum Number	Description	Insurance Value
7.1353.1-5	Seligmann: 5 Costume sketches for Four Temperaments, watercolor	1250.00
7.1354.1-8	Cagli: 8 Costume sketches for Synfonie Concertante, ink	1,00.00
7.1355.1-6	Frances: 6 Costume sketches for Zodiac, watercolor (tempera)	300.00
7.1356	Morcom: Backdrep for Synfonie Concertante, watercolor	500.00
7.1357.1-2	Armistead: 2 projections for The Medium, watercolor	100.00
7.1358.1-2	armistead: 2 detail drawings for The Medium, watercolor	100.00
7.1359.	Armistead: Backdrep for The Medium, watercolor - Sa find	500.00
7.1360.1-4	Armisteed: 4 Costume Sketches for Punch & the Child, ink	200.0
7.1361	Armistead: Backdrop for Prologue for Punch & the Child, ink	500.0
7.1362	Frances: Backdrop for Renard, watercolor	500.0
7.1363.1-4	Frances: 4 Costume sketches for Renard, watercolor	200.0
7.1364.1-6		300.0

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II .37

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

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Date	12/30	11	7

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From The Ballet Society, Inc. 130 West 56th St. New York, N.Y. Att: Mr. J. Melville

for EMHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947 - 1948 January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number	Description	Insurance Value
17.11.77.114	Junyer: design in 4 parts for front ourtain, Minotaur, oil on composition board	\$1,00.00
47.1478.13	Colwell: Ballet photographs	
47.1478.46	Van Vechten: Ballet photographs	
47.1478.713	Colwell: Ballet photographs	
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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II 37

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Date.....12/22/17

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From The Ballet Society, Inc. 130 West 56th St. New York City

for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGES FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947 - 1948

January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number	Description	Insurance Value
47.1450	Cagli: project for ballet Triumph of Bachhus & Ariadne, wo	9500.00
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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II.37

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Date December 18, 1917

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From The Sallet Society, Inc. 130 West 56th Street New York, New York

for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947 - 1948 January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number	Description	Insurance Value
47.1448.	Tanning: 4 racehorse costume sketches, watercolor for ballet The Favourite	1200,00
147.11419	Tanning: backdrop for The Favourite, watercolor & ink	500.00
		The sale

	Collection:	Series.Folder:
The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II .37

My ambery
THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
J1 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Date 1/13/48

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From N. Mark Pagano 312 East 19th Street New York 3, New York

for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947 - 1948
January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number	Description	
48.3	Seligmann: The Four Temperaments, backdrop, oil on canvas	\$ 200.00
	* Manual production for the lattice, desired	1
		-

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II 37

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Date 1/12/18

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From Horace Armistead 34 Grove Street New York, New York oc: The Ballet Society, Inc. 130 West 56th Street New York, New York

for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number	Description	Value
48.1	Armistead: costume sketch for Devil, Punch & the Child, tempera	\$ 500
		000
18.2	" lighting projection for The Medium, tempera	500
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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II.37	

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Date 12/16/17

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From The Ballet Society, Inc. 130 West 56th Street New York City Att: Mr. J. Melville

for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947 - 1948

January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number				D	escription						Val	ue
47.1476.1-	7	Costume	sketches	for Th	e Minota	ur, ten	apora,	by Jun	yer		\$35	50.00
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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II .37	

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Date December 16, 1947

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From The Ballet Society, Inc. 150 W. 56th Street Hew York, New York

for EXHIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947-1948
January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number	Description	Insuran Value	ce
47.1394-	Karinska; h maske from Renard	\$1000	00
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			-

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The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II 37	

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

Date January 7, 1948

#### LOAN RECEIPT

The objects described below have been received by The Museum of Modern Art as loans under the conditions noted on the back of this receipt.

From Joan Junyer 306 East 98th St. New York, New York

for EINIBITION: STAGE DESIGNS FOR THE BALLET SOCIETY, 1947 - 1948 January 20 - April 18, 1948

Museum Number	Description	Insurance Value
47.1480	Junyer: model for Minotaur set, plaster, wire, terra cotta	\$150.00
		-

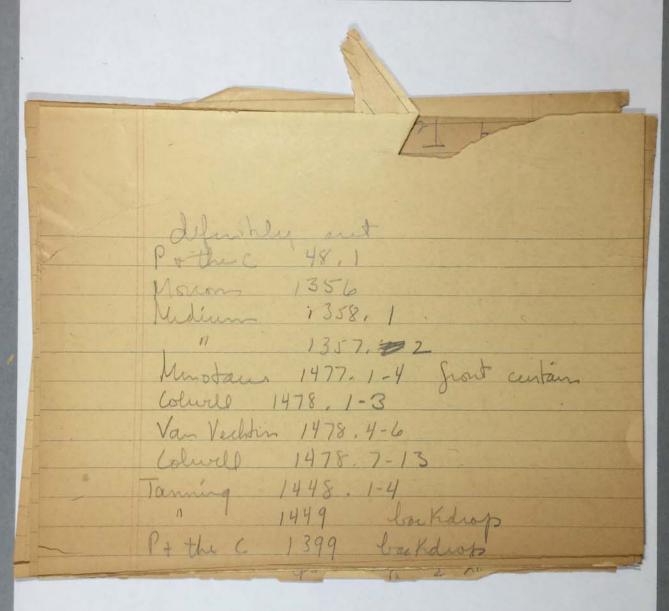
Th- 24	Collection:	Series.Folder:	
The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Dance	II 37	

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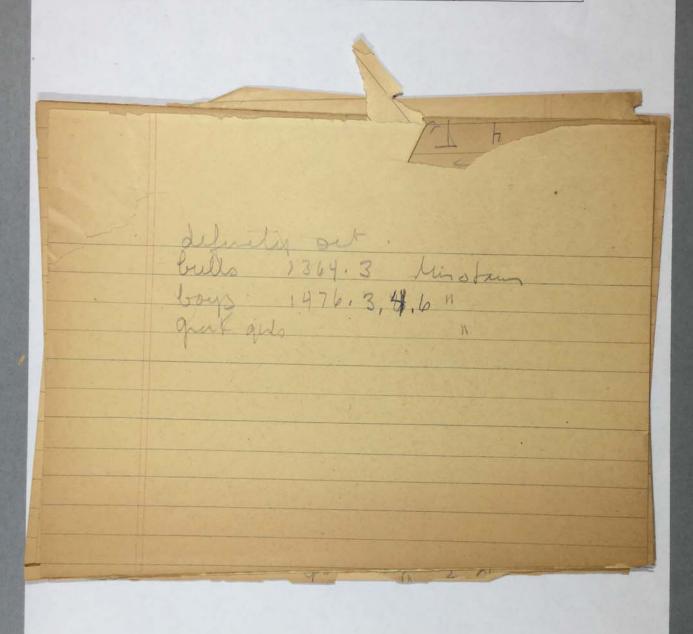
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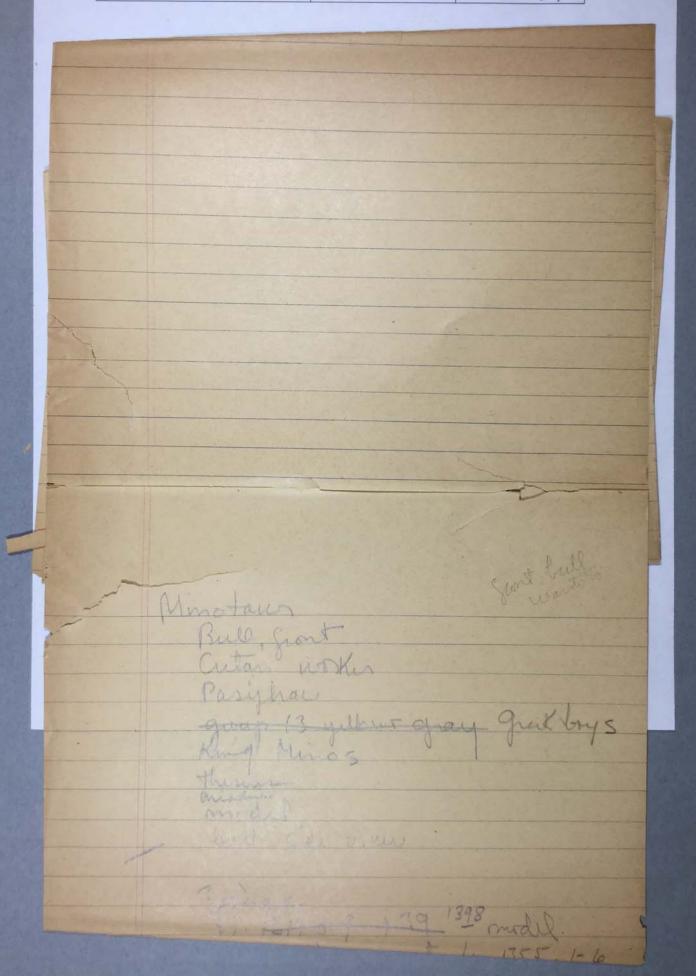
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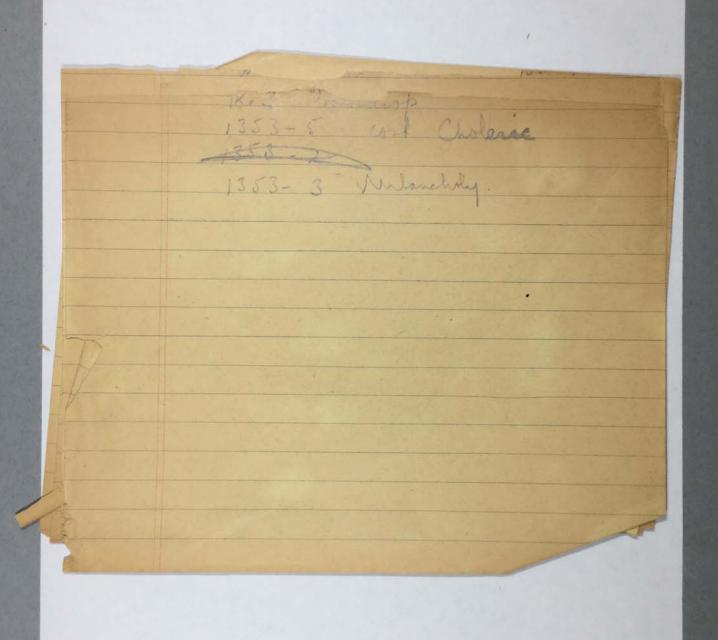
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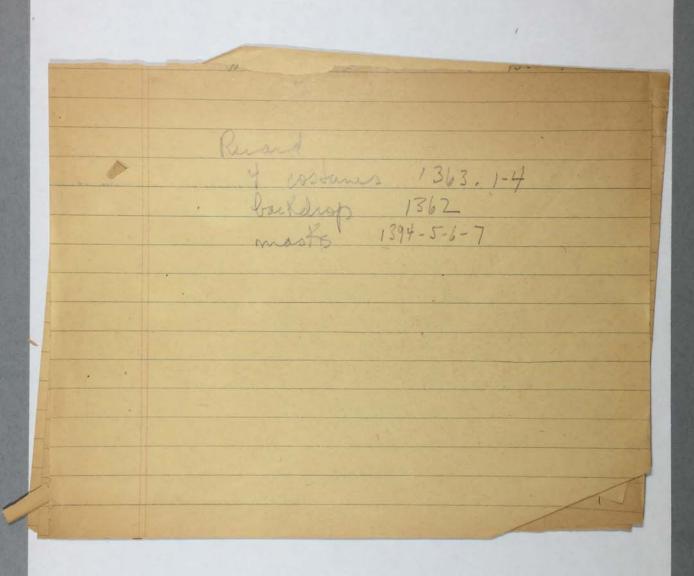
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