

# Guide to the Set Design Drawings for the Film *Mourning Becomes Electra*

YCAL MSS 798



by Beinecke Staff

October 2013

P. O. Box 208330  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** YCAL MSS 798

**CREATOR:** Pyke, Albert M., 1897-1978

**TITLE:** Set design drawings for the film Mourning Becomes Electra.

**DATES:** circa 1947

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.33 linear feet (34 broadside folders)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection includes 34 charcoal set design sketches by Albert M. Pyke of scenes from the film Mourning Becomes Electra, produced and directed by Dudley Nichols. The drawings, dating from circa 1947, are on mountings measuring 35 3/4" x 29 3/4" and smaller. Each drawing has a title label which reads: "Dudley Nichols Production of Eugene O'Neill's Mourning Becomes Electra [title of drawing] William E. Flannery, Art Director."

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.pyke>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.pyke>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Dudley Nichols, 1947.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization, in 2013. The titles in the listing were transcribed from the drawings.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

The collection is comprised of material formerly classed as ZA Theatre Guild.

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## Albert M. Pyke (1897-1978)

Albert M. Pyke was an American film and television set designer and art director.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection includes 34 charcoal set design sketches by Albert M. Pyke of scenes from the film *Mourning Becomes Electra*, produced and directed by Dudley Nichols. The drawings, dating from circa 1947, are on mountings measuring 35 3/4" x 29 3/4" and smaller. Each drawing has a title label which reads: "Dudley Nichols Production of Eugene O'Neill's *Mourning Becomes Electra* [title of drawing] William E. Flannery, Art Director.

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## Arrangement

The drawings are arranged in the order in which they were initially inventoried by the library.

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## Collection Contents

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|-------------------|---|
| b. 1 (Broadside)  | Exterior of Dr. Hammel's House -- New York, 1865  |
| b. 2 (Broadside)  | Title frame with image of the ship "Flying Trades"  |
| b. 3 (Broadside)  | Exterior Wharf -- Boston harbor   |
| b. 4 (Broadside)  | Interior of Ezra's bedroom  |
| b. 5 (Broadside)  | Brant at mailbox  |
| b. 6 (Broadside)  | Deck at skylight -- "Flying Trades" -- Boston   |
| b. 7 (Broadside)  | Exterior of wharf -- Boston Harbor  |
| b. 8 (Broadside)  | Exterior deck at gangplank, "Flying Trades" -- Boston   |
| b. 9 (Broadside)  | Orin and Lavinia at gangplank, "Flying Trades" -- Boston  |
| b. 10 (Broadside) | Interior of apothecary's shop   |
| b. 11 (Broadside) | Interior of Lavinia's room -- Brant's boarding house  |
| b. 12 (Broadside) | Stair hall -- Brant's boarding house  |
| b. 13 (Broadside) | Interior of Mannon stair hall   |
| b. 14 (Broadside) | Interior of Mannon sitting room   |
| b. 15 (Broadside) | Exterior of Mannon home<br>Photograph of design mounted on board with charcoal titles, etc. Note reads: "Matte shot for #314, 315, 316, 317." |
| b. 16 (Broadside) | Exterior deck at gangplank, "Flying Trades," -- Boston  |
| b. 17 (Broadside) | Brant and poison formula  |
| b. 18 (Broadside) | Exterior of the "Flying Trades"   |
| b. 19 (Broadside) | Brant and drunken chantyman   |
| b. 20 (Broadside) | Exterior of apothecary's shop   |
| b. 21 (Broadside) | Interior of Mannon study  |
| b. 22 (Broadside) | Exterior poop deck, "Flying Trader" -- Boston   |
| b. 23 (Broadside) | Interior of Brant's cabin   |
| b. 24 (Broadside) | Alleyway of "Flying Trades"   |
| b. 25 (Broadside) | Gangplank, "Flying Trades"  |
| b. 26 (Broadside) | Insert - Mail container outside boarding house  |
| b. 27 (Broadside) | New England seaport, 1865   |

b. 28 (Broadside) Exterior of Mannon home

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b. 29 (Broadside) Long shot of "Flying Trades" -- Boston

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b. 30 (Broadside) Exterior of railroad station

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b. 31 (Broadside) Exterior of boarding house and New York street, 1865

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b. 32 (Broadside) New England seaport, 1865 -- Long shot of town--Mannon home on hill

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b. 33 (Broadside) New York Street, 1865 -- Lavinia follows Christine [1]

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b. 34 (Broadside) New York street, 1865 -- Lavinia follows Christine [2]

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Motion pictures -- Production and direction

### **Genres / Formats**

Drawings (visual works) -- United States --  
20th Century

### **Names**

Flannery, William

Nichols, Dudley, 1895-1960

O'Neill, Eugene, 1888-1953 -- Adaptations

Pyke, Albert M., 1897-1978

### **Contributors**

Pyke, Albert M., 1897-1978

O'Neill, Eugene, 1888-1953 (Mourning becomes  
Electra)