



**KLEIBACKER: New York Designer to Ohio Curator  
Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery, May 8 – July 6, 2008**

The front portion of the gallery is devoted to Charles Kleibacker's New York City design years from 1960 to 1986. Visitors will experience this exciting period in the designer's life through photographs, magazine and newspaper articles, memorabilia and sample dress designs.

The balance of the gallery highlights the 11 exhibitions curated by Charles Kleibacker from 1986 to 2006. The checklist provides detailed information on selected garments and scenes from each exhibition.

Please note: The exhibition is not presented in a chronological order due to the nature of the space.

Unless otherwise noted, all clothes are on loan from the Historic Costume and Textiles Collection, Geraldine Schottenstein Wing, at The Ohio State University.

**MEMORABLE DRESS/OHIO WOMEN**

The Ohio State University Gallery of Fine Art, 1986

1. Fortuny (Mariano), 1871 – 1949  
*Spanish, career in Venice, Italy*  
1927 dress of stenciled black silk velvet and Delphos pleated silk  
Gift of Mary Jeffrey Strudwick
2. Balenciaga (Cristóbal), 1895 – 1972  
*Spanish, career in Paris and earlier Madrid*  
1960s short sheath dress of black imported lace, hand-sewn  
sequins, black silk satin, silk crepe  
Owned and worn by Mrs. O.O. McIntyre  
Gift of Dr. Betty Kratz
3. Catalog pages:  
Balenciaga (Cristóbal)  
Details of:  
*Right* late 1950s long dress of pink l'organza and *Left* early 1960s  
short dress of navy silk taffeta  
Gifts of Mrs. Harvey S. Firestone Jr.

*Scene from the Exhibition...*

4.            *On right* (mirror): 1936 long black silk faille Nettie Rosenstein dress. Lent by Phyllis Peckham Collection, Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland.  
              *On left* (mirror): 1940s Adrian printed black crepe ensemble. Gift of estate of Mrs. Flossie W. Brown, Lent by Cincinnati Art Museum  
  
              *Next to the Adrian*: 1960s Geoffrey Beene navy silk satin dress, white satin stole  
              Gift of Mary Nancy Davis  
              *Background*: 1910 satin wedding dress  
              Gift of Harriet L.P. Stewart and Mrs. John Colville Taylor  
              Lent by Cincinnati Art Museum
5.            Exhibition catalog for *Memorable Dress/Ohio Women*
6.            Steven Stipelman, 1944 –  
              *New York*  
              1995 painting of Charles Kleibacker 1971 dress  
              On loan from Charles Kleibacker

**LINEAR GRACE: 1920s – 1930s HAUTE COUTURE**

Columbus Museum of Art, 1989

7.            Jean Patou, 1887 – 1936  
              *French, career in Paris*  
              Mid-1920s two-piece silk dress, metallic threads, seed beads  
              OSU Friends purchases
8.            Paul Poiret, 1879 – 1944  
              *French, career in Paris*  
              Early 1920s dress in burnt orange silk crepe and gold laces  
              OSU Friends purchases

*Scenes from the Exhibition...*

9.            Detail of Jean Patou dress  
  
              1920s Lanvin red velvet cape with intricate machine embroidery over a 1920s black silk Lanvin dress

**REEL TO REAL:  
THE HOLLYWOOD DESIGNER AFTER FILM**

Columbus Museum of Art, 1993

10. Adrian (Gilbert), 1903 – 1959  
*American, career in Los Angeles*  
1944 wool suit in brown and white checks of various sizes  
OSU Friends purchase
11. Howard Greer, 1896 – 1974  
*American, career in Los Angeles*  
1940s dress of navy rayon crepe, white linen trim  
On loan from Mount Mary College, Historic Costume Collection,  
Milwaukee  
Gift of Charles Kleibacker
12. Travis Banton, 1894 – 1958  
*American, career in Los Angeles*  
1944 two-piece wedding dress of white rayon satin and gold  
metallic threads, made for Banton's niece  
Gift of Mary Jane (Lane)Varga
13. Valentina (Schlee) 1904 – 1989  
*Russian, career in New York*  
1930s bias-cut dress of golden-yellow jersey, custom-made for  
actress Gloria Swanson  
On loan from Mount Mary College, Historic Costume Collection,  
Milwaukee  
Gift of Charles Kleibacker
14. Irene (Lentz), 1901 – 1962  
*American, career in Los Angeles*  
1959 dress of silk soufflé, silk crepe, bugle beads, rhinestones,  
metallic threads  
OSU Friends purchase

*Scenes from the Exhibition...*

15. Adrian's famous 1945 *Modern Museum* dress in taupe  
rayon crepe with grey, peach, and red color insets
16. Travis Banton's two-piece lamé design for actress  
Claudette Colbert in the 1934 Cecil B. DeMille film  
*Cleopatra*. On loan from Larry McQueen and Bill Thomas  
of The Collection
17. Three 1950s Irene dresses in beige-gold silk soufflé, silk  
crepe, rhinestones, beads, metallic threads

**IN BLACK AND WHITE:  
DRESS FROM THE 1920s TO TODAY**

Wexner Center for the Arts, 1992

*Scenes from the Exhibition...*

18. The workroom: draping in muslin. A completed Kleibacker muslin and the four Kleibacker garments developed from the same muslin pattern. A glimpse of the all-important ironing board and iron.
19. Little black dresses from a 1935 Madeleine Vionnet (on loan from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art) to a 1991 – 1992 Giorgio Armani, behind Andrée Putman's double screen, giving the effect of moire.
20. In a scene with Frank Gehry's corrugated furniture: Nina Ricci's 1970s crepe pants and tunic; a late 1960s Yves Saint Laurent dress from his *African Collection*; Issey Miyake's 1991 white dress of Nylon monofilament and his pinwheel cotton skirt and blouse; several 1990s black Alaïa dresses; several Hervé Leger black and white *banded* dresses. At the far end, the evening gown scene with designers Pauline Trigère, Charles James, Jean Marie Armand, Jacques Griffe, Paul Poiret, Galanos, Bruyère, Christian Dior (by Ferrè), and Lanvin (by Montana).
21. Christian Dior, 1905-1957 (by Yves Saint Laurent, born 1936)  
*French, careers in Paris*  
1959 Automne-Hiver. Black and white heavy wool tweed coat, jacket, skirt, scarf  
Gift of the estate of Mrs. Philip R. (Dorothy) Peters
22. Maggy Rouff, 1896 – 1971  
*French, career in Paris*  
1930s bias-cut dress in black silk charmeuse  
OSU Friends purchase
23. Stavropoulos (George), 1920 – 1990  
*Greek, career in New York, earlier in Athens, Greece*  
1980s dress of four layers of alternating white and pale pink silk chiffon, lace, beaded straps. White chiffon neck scarf  
Gift of George Stavropoulos
24. Courrèges (André), born 1923  
*French, career in Paris*  
1960s dress of white plastic, wool lining  
Gift of Isabel and Frederick Eberstadt

25. Irene (Lentz), 1901 – 1962  
*American, career in Los Angeles*  
1950s sleeveless coat of black silk velvet; dress of black silk velvet, monkey fur, white silk faille  
OSU Friends purchase

**STIPELMAN:  
HIS ILLUSTRATIONS AND THE FASHIONS THEY REFLECT**  
Kent State University Museum, 1996

26. *Scene from the Exhibition...*

Steven Stipelman's illustration of Balenciaga 1950s ball gown

27. Madeleine Vionnet, 1876 – 1975  
*French, career in Paris*  
1920s: Vionnet's often-repeated silhouette in bias-y drifts of silk chiffon, with a bodice of silk crepe. Underdress of silk chiffon, silk crepe.  
OSU Friends purchase

Steven Stipelman's illustration of dress and cape

28. Gallenga (Monaci Maria), 1880-1945  
*Italian, career in Rome*  
1920s cape in black and pink batik silk velvet, with solid black as a border  
OSU Friends purchase

29. Pierre Balmain, 1914-1982  
*French, career in Paris*  
1964 ensemble: strapless dress and loop-cape in silk velvet and silk serge. Worn by and gift of actress Carroll Baker

Steven Stipelman's illustration of ensemble

30. Kleibacker (Charles) 1921 –  
*Career in New York and Ohio*  
late 1970s dress in Lurex and silk, silk organza

Painting and sketch of dress by Steven Stipelman  
On loan from Charles Kleibacker

**NOT-SO-BASIC BLACK:  
POWERFUL PRESENCE IN 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY DRESS**  
Columbus Museum of Art, 2004

*Scenes from the Exhibition...*

31. Adrian's early 1940s famous short *bandings* dress in black rayon crepe.
32. Tod Draz's 1950s *Black as Ink* illustration of garments by Pierre Balmain for Joseph Halpert; Anne Klein dress; Kleibacker coat; Nettie Rosenstein dress and scarf  
On loan from Charles Kleibacker
33. Molyneux (Edward), 1891 – 1974  
*English, career in Paris*  
1936 day coat in black wool. Attached cape with hand-worked tucks at back neckline  
On loan from Mrs. Douglas (Susan) Levin
34. Grès (Mme), 1903 – 1993  
*French, career in Paris*  
1970s cloak in silk faille. Selvage (edge of fabric) down front with fabric turned back on itself to form loop at bottom hemline, draping up to the neckline where there is the only seam (center-back) which continues to below the waistline.  
Gift of Mrs. William Randolph (Austine) Hearst Jr.
35. Isabel Toledo, born 1961  
*Cuban-American, career in New York*  
1998 asymmetrically-cut dress of black rayon jersey, eyelash fringe and net  
On loan from Isabel and Ruben Toledo

**UNCOMMON CLOTHES**  
Columbus Museum of Art, 2006

*Scene from the Exhibition...*

36. Enlargement of a photograph of Isabel and Ruben Toledo in their New York studio. Photograph: Norman Jean Roy
37. Galanos (James), 1924 –  
*American, career in Los Angeles*  
1963 panel print dress of silk crepe  
On loan from the collection of Steven Stipelman, New York

38. Norman Norell, 1900 – 1972  
*American, career in New York*  
1962 day ensemble of grey wool skirt and bias-cut stole; black silk blouse, black belt  
On loan from the collection of Steven Stipelman, New York

*Scenes from the Exhibition...*

39. Ralph Rucci, 1957 –  
*American, career in New York and Paris*  
2002 Paris Haute Couture tunic of silk cigaline and silk gazar with hand-looped ribbons; silk velvet pants  
Photograph by Dr. Anne Bissonnette
40. Enlarged Skrebneski photograph of 1969 Kleibacker bias-cut silk crepe dress.
41. Late 1960s Norman Norell ensemble: black wool jacket with black fox fur; sleeveless black wool dress.

**REALITY AND INTERPRETATION**

Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery, 2000

*Scenes from the Exhibition...*

42. Richard Avedon books on chair showing 1955 Christian Dior dress of black velvet with white sash on model Dovima with elephants.
43. *left:* Steven Stipelman sketch of the Christian Dior dress (also seen here). Owned by Kent State University Museum  
*center:* 1993 Givenchy wedding gown of white silk/ rayon lace over silk organza and crepe; back pouf of silk faille  
Owned by Abigail Wexner  
*right:* 1989 Isabel Toledo two-piece dress of silk velvet  
Illustration of the dress by Ruben Toledo  
Owned by Isabel and Ruben Toledo
44. Bill Blass, 1922 – 2002  
*American, career in New York*  
1981 dress of black silk velvet and sleeves in crinkled gold/ orange metallic-look fabric  
Gift of Mrs. Cyrus Fulton  
Illustration by Esther Larson, 1919 –  
On loan from Kent State University Fashion School

*Illustrations from original exhibition:*

45. Tod Draz, Kleibacker dress  
On loan from Charles Kleibacker
46. Gloria Sacks dress by Esther Larson  
On loan from Charles Kleibacker
47. Chanel (Gabrielle, “Coco”), 1883 – 1971  
*French, career in Paris*  
Mid-1920s cape in greige silk charmeuse dyed in batik style,  
bordered in an abstract floral motif, sable collar and hem  
On loan from Kent State University Museum  
Gift of Shannon Rodgers and Jerry Silverman  
Photograph of cape by Gary Harwood

*Illustrations from original exhibition:*

48. *top:* Kenneth Paul Block of Charles Kleibacker dress  
*center:* Kenneth Paul Block of Charles Kleibacker dresses  
*bottom:* Sandra Leichman of Charles Kleibacker dress
49. Victor Costa, 1935 –  
*American, career in Dallas*  
1992 strapless sheath dress of black rayon velvet with white satin  
extending from front waistline into a back bow whose streamers  
extend into a long train.  
On loan from Jane Roslovic

Illustration by Steven Stipelman of Jane Roslovic in Costa  
dress

**SCULPTURE AND DRAPERY... THE ART OF FASHION**

Geraldine Schottenstein Wing at The Ohio State University

50. Kleibacker (Charles), 1921 –  
*American, career in New York and Ohio*  
1983 bias-cut silk crepe dress  
On loan from Charles Kleibacker
51. Charles James, 1906 – 1978  
*American, career in London and New York*  
Sleeveless dress: lace, silk satin, silk faille, rayon tulle, cotton,  
“horsehair” braid, silk ribbon, Pellon®  
Gift of Sally van der Meersch (now Mrs. Michael van Beuren)

*Scenes from the Exhibition...*

52. Two large Steven Stipelman illustration reproductions:  
Kleibacker, crepe and chiffon dress; Charles James, net and  
satin dress

**DRESSed UP PHOTOGRAPHY**

Columbus Museum of Art, 1997

*Scenes from the Exhibition...*

53. Three photographs by Horst (Horst P. Horst),  
On loan from Charles Kleibacker:  
*Top:* 1940s long red rayon crepe dress: gold bugle beads,  
owned by Joan Crawford  
*Center:* 1948 silk satin in bronze / green / black by  
Bruyère, Paris, custom-made for Hildegard  
*Bottom:* 1950s white lace dress by Travilla, the ready-to-  
wear version of the dress he designed for Marilyn Monroe  
in the last scene of the 1953 film, *There's No Business Like  
Show Business*.
54. Designer Unknown.  
Label: Bergdorf Goodman  
1930s bias-cut wedding gown of white crepe-back silk satin.  
On loan from Mount Mary College, Historic Costume Collection,  
Milwaukee  
Gift of Charles Kleibacker.  
Photograph: Neal Barr
55. Balenciaga (Cristóbal), 1895 – 1972  
*Spanish, career in Paris and earlier Madrid*  
1950s coat in doubled blistered silk organza, 7/8 length, cardigan  
front  
On loan from Mount Mary College, Historic Costume Collection,  
Milwaukee  
Gift of Charles Kleibacker.  
Photograph: Dr. Carolyn Woodford Schmidt
56. Pierre Cardin, 1922 –  
*French, career in Paris*  
1966 wool ensemble: sleeveless dress with a double-breasted  
waist-length capelet that hugs both shoulder and arm.  
Gift of Isabel and Frederick Eberstadt.  
Photograph of Isabel Eberstadt: W Magazine
57. Photographs of Isabel and Frederick Eberstadt in W Magazine

## **COUTURE / READY-TO-WEAR**

Columbus Museum of Art, 1998

### *Scenes from the Exhibition...*

58. Ready-to-wear: Galanos (James), 1924 –  
*American, career in Los Angeles*  
1981 dress: one-shoulder bodice of black wool with an enormous “starfish” of imported rhinestones; printed skirt of black silk with small white “stars” embellished with imported rhinestones; sash of black satin ribbon
59. Photograph of Galanos (James) by Skrebneski  
On loan from Charles Kleibacker
60. Couture: 1950s above-the-ankle strapless Charles James dress in green silk brocade. The stand-away skirt silhouette, skillfully engineered by James, is designed with his signature ruched band strewn with pearls
61. Pauline Trigère, 1910-2002  
*French, career in New York*  
1985 ready-to-wear purple wool crepe dress  
Gift of Pauline Trigère
62. Photograph of Pauline Trigère by Richard Avedon  
The June F. Mohler Fashion Library and the Shannon Rodgers and Jerry Silerman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising, Kent State University
63. Philippe Venet, 1929 –  
*French, career in Paris*  
1986 button-front couture day dress in orange wool gabardine, belt with gold brass buckle  
Gift of Elizabeth Corbett of Chez Ninon, New York