

Short Subjects

Exorcist Makeup Artist Dick Smith Dead at 92

Legendary master makeup artist passes away after long illness



Master makeup artist Dick Smith, whose Oscar-winning makeup turned teenaged Linda Blair into a possessed demon in *The Exorcist* and made dentures that gave Marlon

Brando jowls in *The Godfather*, died on July 30th following a long illness. He was 92.

Smith grew up in Larchmont, New York. In his sophomore year as a pre-med student at Yale, he dedicated his interests to theatrical makeup and began working with a Yale theater group.

As the head of makeup at NBC from 1945 to 1959, Smith innovated the use of latex and plastic in prosthetic makeup. In the film industry, his work earned him the nickname of "Godfather of Makeup." He wrote *Dick Smith's Do-It-Yourself Monster Make-up Handbook* in 1965 (ISBN-13: 9780911137026), which makeup artist Rick Baker cited as an inspiration. "The master is gone," according to Baker, "The world will not be the same."

For the film *Midnight Cowboy*, Smith helped create a formula for fake blood using corn syrup and Kodak Photo-Flo. Variants of the recipe are still used today.

He also came up with ways to age actors for the screen. He aged Dustin Hoffman by nearly 100 years for scenes in the 1970 film *Little Big Man*. Smith and fellow makeup artist Paul LeBlanc also aged F. Murray Abraham from his mid-40s, into an elderly Antonio Salieri for the *Amadeus* in 1984, earning the film one of eight Oscars. He also won a Prime Time Emmy aging actor Hal Holbrook for his 1967 production, *Mark Twain Tonight!*

In 2012, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Board of Governors presented Smith with a Governor's Honorary Award, "for his unparalleled mastery of texture, shade, form and illusion." He also won a Makeup Artists Lifetime Achievement Award at the Makeup Artists and Hair Stylist Guild Awards in 2014.

According to American actor, stuntman, director, and special effects and makeup artist Tom Savini, Dick Smith was one of the greatest makeup artists ever. "He's invented all the techniques that every makeup artist uses today. They might improve on it, they might make it better, but it all begins with his techniques."

Emmy, Corset, Drawing, Jewellery Exhibits at FIDM

Multiple exhibits at the Fashion Institute for Design and Merchandising are free.

The eighth annual Primetime Emmy



Behind the Candelabra. Ellen Mirojnick. Emmy Award 2013.

exhibit celebrates the art and artistry of nominated costume designers and supervisors. With costumes from a variety of television genres, the exhibit is

organized by guest curator Mary Rose, costume designer and member of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Through September 20.

For centuries, corsets contorted the



Corset, Europe c. 1865.

female figure into the reigning ideal. *Bound to Impress: Corsets from The Helen Larson Historic Fashion Collection* highlights these

unnatural fashions between the 1760s and the 1820s. Whether conically shaped rounded hourglass garment silhouettes followed the dictates of these concealed undergarments. The exhibit covers 60 years—from the Ancien Régime, through the

French Revolution, during the age of Napoléon, to the era of British Romanticism. Through November 1.

Designing Hollywood is an exhibit of rare Hollywood costume sketches from the collection of Christian Esquevin, author of



Adrian: Silver Screen to Custom Label. Features work by Walter Plunkett, Irene, Travilla, and other costume designers and illustrators, offering a glimpse into the Golden Age of Hollywood costume design. Through November 1.

Artfully Adorned explores two



centuries of jewelry history. Designs, motifs, and materials place each artifact within the context of the times in

which they were made. Presented in the Annette Green Fragrance Archive, this intimate exhibition features approximately 50 pieces of historic jewelry from the Christie Romero Collection. Ongoing: visitors must have a current photo ID to access the Annette Green Fragrance Archive

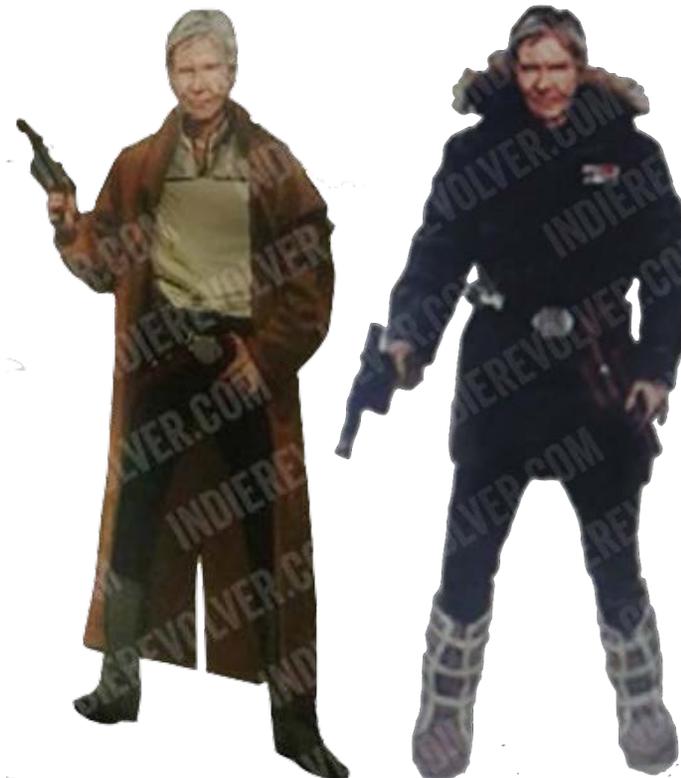
All exhibits are free during regular hours: 10am-5pm Tue.-Sat. [Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising](#), Los Angeles, California.

Leaked Sketches of “Han Solo” from Episode VII

Older “Han Solo” shown in two new leaked costume sketches from the upcoming movie.

Star Wars: Episode VII won't be out until 2015, but the leaks from the film set keep coming. [Indie Revolver](#) recently posted several images that it claims are from the movie — including two costume design drawings featuring an older “Han Solo.”

The leaked design drawings show two of “Han Solo's” outfits: a long brown duster, and a dark winter coat with a fur-lined hood. Could “Han Solo” be returning to Hoth?



Exhibits Feature Women's Fashion of World War I

Exhibit tracks social and political changes before and during World War I

Hobble Skirts to Suffragettes: Fashion 1910-1920. The end of the



Edwardian period began significant social change for U.S and U.K. women, expedited by World War I. Women gained economic and political power as they worked,

supported families, and lobbied for equal rights. This exhibit explores women's fashion, showing how and why women moved from the constraint of the corset to the freedom of the flapper dress. At the [American Textile History Museum](#), Lowell, Massachusetts. Through October 2015.

The Great War: Women and Fashion in a World At War: 1912-1922.

Coinciding with the one hundredth anniversary of the start of World War I, the Kent State University Museum hosts an exhibit about the war's dramatic and lasting impact on women's dress and societal roles. These years saw tremendous social and political upheaval, and a radical transformation in the ways women dressed. This exhibition looks at some of those changes. Through July 5, 2015. [The Museum at Kent State University](#) in Kent, Ohio.



Ancient Textile May Contain Lost Biblical Blue Dye

Sacred blue snail dye seen only twice in the last 2,000 years discovered on ancient cloth

According to an [article](#) in the *New York Times*, A 2,000-year old textile containing a blue dye described in the Bible has been uncovered in Israel. The cloth, which displays one of the few remnants of the ancient color ever found, was dyed using a snail known as the *Murex trunculus*.

Scholars have puzzled over the exact shade of blue represented by “tekhelet” for centuries. The Bible mentions it as the color of ceremonial robes worn by high priests and the prayer tassels of common Israelites.

Zvi C. Koren, a professor at the Shenkar College of Engineering and Design, who specializes in the analytical chemistry of ancient colorants, says he has identified the first known physical sample of tekhelet in a 2,000-year-old patch of dyed fabric recovered from Masada, King Herod’s fortress in the deserts of Judea. The fragment is stored at Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

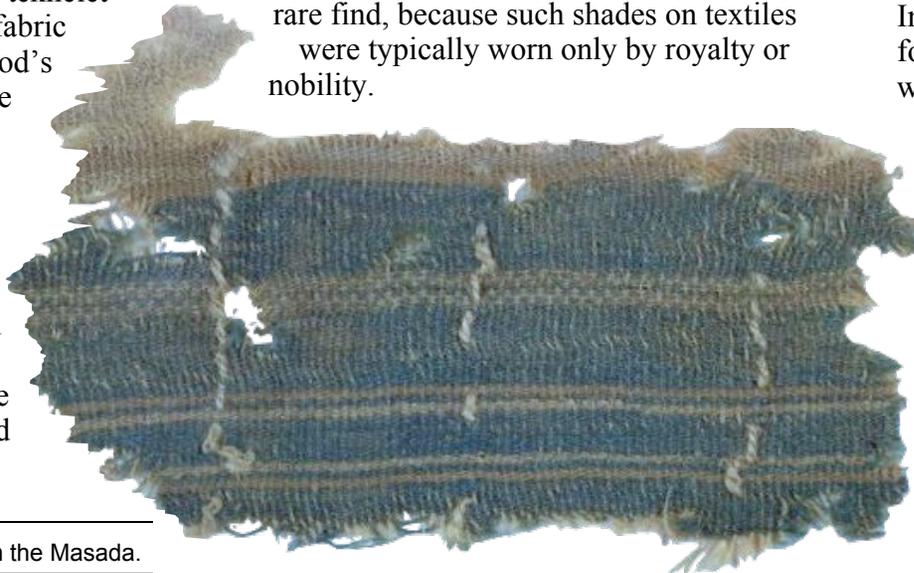
“It really is majestic,” Dr. Koren said, adding that it remained close to its original hue and appeared to be indigo. He said that the limited number of blue or purple dyes found on textiles in the region until now have been derived from plant material.

A 2,000 year old patch of dyed fabric from the Masada.



Murex trunculus snail familiar to modern Israelis.

According to Dr. Koren, the dye used in the Masada sample (below) came from a breed of *Murex trunculus* snail familiar to modern Israelis. (above) He noted that it is a rare find, because such shades on textiles were typically worn only by royalty or nobility.



Wool dipped in “tekhelet”.

The gland of this sea-snail secretes a yellow fluid that, when exposed to sunlight, turns purple-blue and can be used to dye cloth. (left)

Determining what exactly tekhelet would have looked like in its day has been the subject of conjecture and curiosity among rabbis, religious commentators and scientists for centuries; it is considered the most important of the three ritual colors cited in the Bible. The other two are “argaman,” a reddish purple, and “shani,” known as scarlet.

Scientists and scholars are still debating the exact shade of the ritual blue. Traditional interpretations characterize tekhelet as a pure blue, symbolic of the heavens so that Jews would remember God. In modern Hebrew, “tekhelet” is the word for light blue, and the blue of the Israeli flag was inspired by the color.

Dr. Koren's analysis suggests that tekhelet was closer to a bluish purple. “It’s not the color of the sky as we know it; it’s the color of sky at midnight,” he said. “It’s when you are all alone at night that you reach out to God, and that is what tekhelet reminds you of.” He concluded that because the textile from Masada was locally made from snails, and bluish, it most likely represented the first modern encounter with the authentic biblical tekhelet.

Dance & Fashion

An upcoming exhibit examines the relationship between the two art forms.

The Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology's upcoming exhibit, "Dance & Fashion" looks at the collaboration between contemporary choreographers and fashion designers such as Yves Saint Laurent and Rei Kawakubo to create exciting ballet, modern, and other dance costumes.



Leon Bakst,
Schéhérazade,
1910

Organized by the museum's director, Dr. Valerie Steele, and set in a dramatic mise-en-scène created by architect Kim Ackert, "Dance & Fashion" features nearly 100 dance costumes and dance-inspired fashions, ranging from the 19th century to the present, many of which have never been exhibited.

A multi-author book, to be published by Yale University Press, will accompany the exhibition. A two-day symposium on October 23-24, 2014, that will be free and open to the public, will further explore dance and fashion. There will also be a series of free lectures, workshops, and tours, part of the Fashion Culture program.

Opening September 13 until January 3, the exhibit is free. The [Fashion Institute of Technology](#), New York City, New York.

Parting Shot

A photo that's too good not to use.

Sometimes a story has a great left-over photo that deserves to be used, but there's no room for it in the article, or it's slightly off-topic and doesn't fit in. A photo for Kathe Gust's article in this issue, "A Beginner's Guild to Ribbon Embroidery," is a case in point.

While demonstrating various stitches for photos to accompany her article, Kathe opened a special antique box where she keeps spools and lengths of silk thread, so that she could show examples of couched ribbon work. The box was sitting on the table where she was working, and the photographer noticed how colorful the threads were and that Kathe was reflected by the mirror in the lid of the box.

Fascinated by the image, he decided to snap a shot while she was preparing one of the examples. The photo reveals a riot of colors and patterns that magically transforms the small antique box with spools and lengths of thread into an exotic foreign bazaar, with a princess at her window overlooking the market below. *"Whatever the imagination seizes as Beauty must be truth..."* – John Keats

