

## Interim Report on Betsy Marks and Karen Schnaubelt Grant 2022

September 2022

As of August 31, 2022, the new search function on the Costume-Con Visual Archive at Costume-Con.org is live. I'm preparing to adjust all the photo records (with Ellie Farrell's help), to improve our search functions. The new Advanced Search feature works best with tags and those tags need to be applied to every photo in our collection, so we'll be working backwards and forwards to get everything done.

### **Why is this necessary?**

The original NGG search function delivers content based on the description as well as tags, but if your only contribution to a photo is that you're the photographer, your name still shows up in a search. At present, only costumers whose names have changed over time (including Karen, me, and an assortment of others) will show up reliably, but only under those names that were included in the tags. This means a search of the name Betsy Marks may only pull up a handful of items, but a search of Ken Warren will pull up thousands of images. We want to filter out those instances while still recognizing these photographic contributions.

You can test the new system here: <https://www.costume-con.org/search-cc-visual-archive-images/search-costume-con-visual-archive/>

### **Plea for help**

My only regret is that I didn't realize this tagging process would be needed, because I would have done it the first time we went through. There are just shy of 12,000 images on the site. We want folks to be able to see all of them in context. If you have questions or want to volunteer to help with the tagging process, please connect with me via [ccinfo@costume-con.org](mailto:ccinfo@costume-con.org). The process isn't hard and we can provide step-by-step instructions.

When this work is done, we can verify that the generous grant we received from the ICG has met both our requirements and those of the ICG's as stated in our original request. A follow-up report will be provided once the tagging work is complete.

Thanks so much for your continued support!

Betsy Marks

SiW VP/ICG Board Rep

Costume-Con Archivist (on behalf of Karen Schnaubelt, Costume-Con Service Mark Holder)