



# THE ICG NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL  
COSTUMERS' GUILD, INC.  
A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

VOLUME IX, ISSUE 5 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER  
2010

The International Costumers' Guild, Inc. (ICG), is an affiliation of amateur, hobbyist, and professional costumers dedicated to the promotion and education of costuming as an art form in all its aspects.

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## FROM THE EDITOR

The ICG board has authorized an on-line edition as well as a printed edition of the newsletter. Your newsletter delivery preference is part of your ICG membership record. If you want to change or verify your delivery preference, contact your local chapter. The newsletter editor relies on these records to determine who receives a print edition.

Members who have an e-mail address on record will be notified when a new on-line edition is available. Those who receive the print edition are also welcome to experience the on-line edition by going to

<http://www.costume.org/currentnewsletter>.

When prompted, enter the user name "newsletter" and the issue password "heterodyne"

Many back issues of the ICG newsletter are available on-line for the entire costuming community to enjoy. Contact the newsletter editor to report problems or comment on the newsletter. If your postal or e-mail address changes, notify your local chapter promptly, or send your updated information to [icg-membership-corrections@costume.org](mailto:icg-membership-corrections@costume.org). Returned copies of the print edition cannot be re-mailed.

## ICG OFFICERS FOR 2010-2011:

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## ICG MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Your ICG membership benefits include voting rights and a subscription to this newsletter. Chapters that fail to report their members and submit their dues run the risk of being deactivated. Members of deactivated chapters who wish to participate in activities as ICG members must join an active chapter of the ICG.

## ICG VIA EMAIL OR THE INTERNET

- ICG WebSite: <http://www.costume.org/>
- Yahoo! Groups:
  - [ICG-D@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ICG-D@yahoogroups.com) ..... (General Discussion)
  - [ICG-BOD@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ICG-BOD@yahoogroups.com) ..... (Board and Officers Discussion)
  - [ICG-TW@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ICG-TW@yahoogroups.com) ..... (Tech and Web Discussion)
  - [ICG-Pub@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ICG-Pub@yahoogroups.com) ..... (Publication Discussion)

ICG-D is open to everyone, including non-members. Everyone can read message archives of the other groups, but only invited members can submit messages.

## ICG NEWSLETTER

International Costumers' Guild, Inc. Newsletter September/October 2010 Issue – Published bimonthly as a benefit for its members. It is delivered to all members in good standing with the ICG. Subscription is included with ICG membership.

International Costumers' Guild, Inc.  
c/o Patrick J. O'Connor, Editor  
6321 W Raven Street  
Chicago IL 60646-3615

## ICG EDITORIAL BOARD 2010:

Patrick J. O'Connor (editor), Betsy Delaney, Philip Gust, Carole Parker and Randall Whitlock.

**HARDCOPY SUBMISSIONS (IF ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY)**

Send by snail mail to The ICG Newsletter Editor address previously listed. We reserve the right to retain all hard copy unless accompanied by a SASE.

**PUBLICATION SPECIFICATIONS/ADVERTISING**

Deadline to receive materials or advertising for print is the FIFTEENTH of the month prior to publication. :

- Issue 1 – January/February – 15 December
- Issue 2 – March/April – 15 February
- Issue 3 – May/June – 15 April (or shortly after Tax Day!)
- Issue 4 – July/August – 15 June
- Issue 5 – September/October – 15 August
- Issue 6 – November/December – 15 October

**ADVERTISING RATES**

Rates are per issue. Please make payment to The ICG, Inc. and send with advertising copy to The ICG Newsletter Editor. Ads received without payment will not be published. Advertising revenues help defray the cost of mailing the newsletter. Additional proceeds benefit the International Costumers' Guild, Inc.

AD SIZE	MEMBER RATES	NON-MEMBER RATES
Full Page (7.75" x 10.25")	\$60	\$120
Half-Page (7.75" x 5")	\$30	\$60
Quarter Page (3.75" x 5")	\$15	\$30
Eighth Page (3.75" x 2.5" or BCard)	\$7.50	\$15
Classified Ads	Free	\$0.50/word

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**ARMED COSTUMERS' GUILD**

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 2705 N. Shepard Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53211  
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**BEYOND REALITY COSTUMERS' GUILD**

c/o Damon Wasson  
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 Lynnwood, WA 98037  
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c/o Christine Rost  
 6969 W. 90th Ave #624 Westminster, CO 80021  
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**NORTHERN LIGHTS COSTUMERS' GUILD**

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**THE ST. LOUIS COSTUMERS' GUILD**

aka The St Louis Ubiquitous Tailoring Society (SLUTS)  
 c/o Bruce Mai  
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 ICG Board Representative: Bruce Mai

**THE SILICON WEB COSTUMERS' GUILD**

aka, the Virtual Costumers Guild  
 c/o Jeanine Swick  
 113 Townsend Harbor Rd Lunenburg, MA 01462  
<http://www.siwcostumers.org/>  
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 ICG Board Representative: Kevin Roche

**SOUTHWEST COSTUMERS' GUILD**

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 PO Box 39504 Phoenix, AZ 85069-9504  
<http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org/>  
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**UTAH COSTUMERS' GUILD**

aka The Sew-and-Sewzz  
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 ICG Board Representative: Dave Doerring

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** (as of June 2010)

The chart shows Primary Membership Count for each chapter reported in June, 2010:

Chapter	June-2010 Update (all transactions received through 6/7/10)							Total copies	Last Reported
	Chapter Cnt.	Primary	Expiring	Newsletter	minus MH	minus NP			
Armed CG	15	5	0	15	0	10	5	5/11/10	
Beyond Reality CG	24	24	0	24	4	0	20	2/24/10	
Chicagoland CG	20	19	0	20	5	1	14	5/14/10	
Denver Costume & Cosplay Society	12	12	0	12	0	0	12	4/4/10	
Fiber Fantasy Artists	15	15	0	15	3	0	12	3/29/10	
Greater Columbia Fantasy CG	23	22	0	23	6	1	16	10/25/09	
Greater Delaware Valley CG	11	9	0	11	4	2	5	4/6/10	
Kansas City CG	11	9	0	11	1	2	8	3/1/10	
MACS	12	12	0	12	1	0	11	5/3/10	
NJ/NY CG	17	17	0	17	5	0	12	1/23/10	
Northern Lights CG	50	50	0	50	17	0	33	6/6/10	
Oklahomaesque	8	8	0	8	2	0	6	12/14/09	
Silicon Web CG	56	54	3	59	10	2	47	6/5/10	
Southwest CG	19	18	1	20	5	1	14	5/29/10	
St. Louis CG	48	42	1	49	15	6	27	4/30/10	
Utah CG	5	5	0	5	1	0	4	3/1/10	
<b>Total Active Membership</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>246</b>		
T-Chapter*	1	0		1		1	246		
<b>Total T-Chapter</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>ICG</b>	
<b>Total Membership</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>321</b>	

\*T-Chapter always one member who is appointed by the BoD as a place holder. This chapter never goes away.

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

The International Costumers' Guild Board of Directors has just approved an application from the Minnesota Society of Costumers. They will supply details and contact information for the next issue.

**FROM THE ACTING WEBMASTER**

The newly formed web team is hard at work bringing the ICG website up to date, and adding many improvements that will make it more useful and easier to use. You can now meet your ICG Officers "fact-to-face" on the "Officers and Board" page, and click through to learn more about them on the new profile page. We are currently in the process of revising the ICG Chapters page. By the end of the year, we plan on bringing the meeting minutes, motions and voting, plus Financials and Reports sections up to date. If you have web authoring skills and would like to get involved, please contact [webmaster@costume.org](mailto:webmaster@costume.org).

Please send corrections to [icg-newsletter@costume.org](mailto:icg-newsletter@costume.org).

# The Agatha Clay [Heterodyne] Locket

Patrick J. O'Connor

*This locket won Honorable Mention--Outstanding Craftsmanship at Costume Con 28, Milwaukee, May 8, 2010.*

Barry Heterodyne's plans for the locket that he used to retard Agatha's spark were lost at the time of his departure. However, some of his notes found by the Professors Foglio in the records of Transylvania Polygnostic University were fortunately preserved and formed the basis of the design reconstructed here.



Back Exterior Front Interior Front Back

The main mechanism is contained within the front and back covers. The clockwork drive provides energy for the acoustic resonators which interfere with the brainwave frequencies associated with the spark, and results in keeping that part of the brain in a continuous state of seizure. Since this is not a center for motor neurons, the only symptoms are severe headaches and being *really, really KLUTZY*. (a technical term beyond the scope of this discussion)



Press die for back-of-locket Socket for back-of-locket press Trilobite Dugout for Repoussé

Rendering the front and back shells (below left) was relatively easy. A metal plate was cut in the shape of the back shell, and a matching wooden die was carved out of a hickory block, using a handheld rotary tool for a sheet of thin brass to be pressed into shape. From the same block of wood, an intaglio carving of the trilobite front shell was carved freehand, using the same rotary tool.

Using a grinding wheel and some spare pieces of aluminum rod, special chisel-like tools were made to hammer the brass into the hollow spaces of the dugout form, and two screw holes were placed diagonally to hold the brass sheet in place while it was being hammered into the form. [This process is called repoussé.]



A laser-print was constructed, based on the text on the back of the locket, and the black toner transferred to a sheet of brass. The brass was then etched with ferric chloride to engrave the lettering. The sheet was then pressed into the back form using the metal oval press-die, and a spring-clip was attached to the resulting back shell.

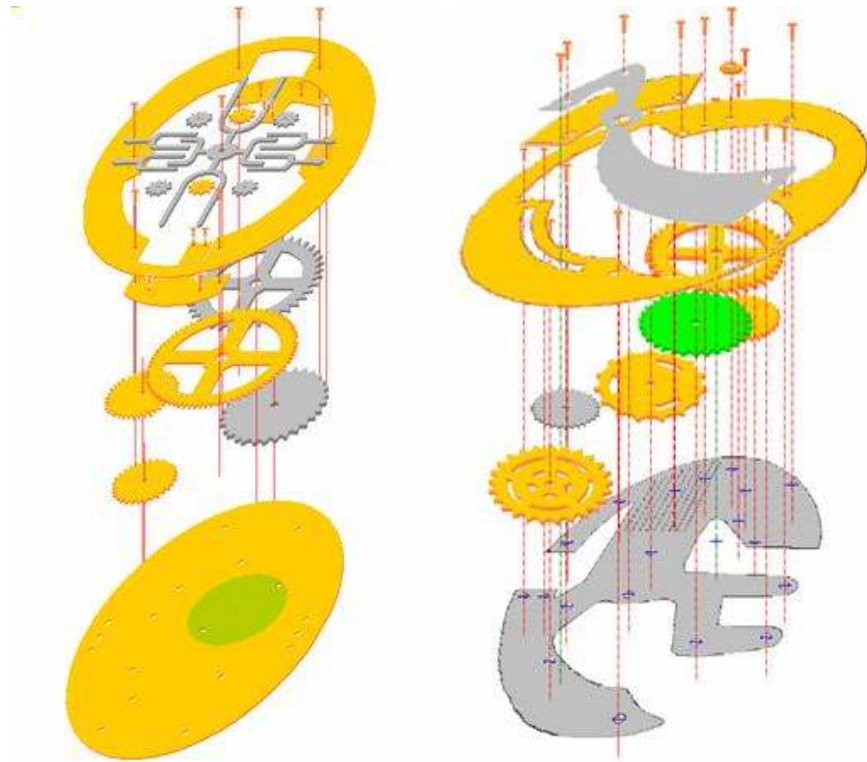


Aluminum Dapping Tools Front Shell

The front shell, after being hammered into the mold with the aluminum tools, was placed inside an oval back-shell similar to the one with the Agatha Clay engraving, but with the

center cut out for the trilobite to show through. The trilobite was soldered into place using silver-solder.

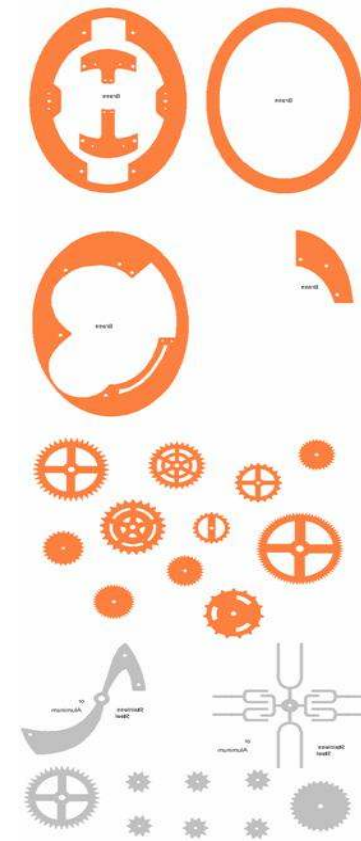
A plan was made for the assembly of the “works” to be placed in the front and back shells of the locket:



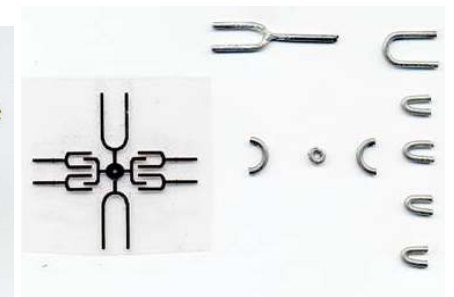
FRONT “works”

BACK “works”

A number of small brass screws were ordered, in sizes for which I already had taps to thread the holes. A pattern was designed for a laser print to transfer onto brass and aluminum sheet, so that the gears and other shapes could be etched with ferric chloride:



The gears on the left below were etched out of brass and aluminum, and the components on the right were soldered using steel wire.



The template on the left below was used for etch-resist on the metal to be etched. The brass and aluminum parts shown at right were also etched and cut out:

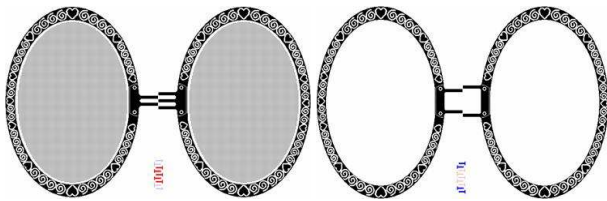


Locket parts were assembled according to the ‘exploded’ diagrams above, and the resulting locket front and back were installed into the shells, mostly held in with epoxy. Additional rings to hold the “works” in place were etched using a “hearts and spirals” pattern shown in the diagrams provided by the Professors Foglio.

When completed, secured and held in with the brass rings at right, the front and back “works” looked like this:



In the interior of the locket, each section of “works” is covered over with two plates holding pictures of Lucrezia Mongfish and William Heterodyne. The engraved brass rings, constructed to hold these pictures are also part of the hinge arrangement. This is shown in the layout of the etching laser-prints transferred onto the metal sheets that these layers are cut out of. The interior plates on the left are for the pictures, and the exterior ones on the right hold the “works” in place.



When curled into loops, the black extensions shown between the rings form the hinge that holds the locket parts in position. These diagrams by the Professors Foglio show how the interior of the locket looks when the pictures are covering up the “works:”



In the notes, the reverse side of the picture holders shows a reticulated floral pattern. This pattern was converted into a laser-print for etching, transferred onto the back of the metal plates, and etched to give the result.



This picture shows a glimpse of the fully assembled locket appeared just after “that naughty flashback scene.” and shows some of the layers:



There was more to putting together the lockets – Mark I and Mark II – but this description covers the basics, and for anybody planning to duplicate this project, connecting the dots that don’t have lines right now is part of the fun! (Kaja Foglio now has the Mark I Locket).

*This article originally appeared on the Chicago Costumers’ Guild web site, <http://chicostume.org/photos/AgathaClayLocket.htm>, , November. 2009.*

## Kyoto Costume Institute Digital Archive

Kathe Gust

The Kyoto Costume Institute (KCI) is the only museum in Japan that specializes in the study and collection of non-Japanese dress. Its famous collections include primarily Western costume and accessories, dating from the 18th Century to the present. The collection is one of the world's most extensive, covering Western fashion and fashion accessories including shoes, handbags, hairclips and jewelry.

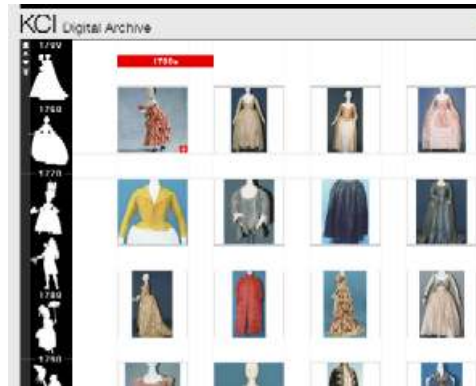
Many costumers are familiar with the various editions of the wonderful books from the KCI. When parts of the collection are not on exhibition, they can be viewed in an extensive high-resolution digital archive through advanced booking in the KCI Study Room for a fee.



Did you know they have a smaller public digital archive as well? The site is available in both English and Japanese parallel versions. It contains 200 of the over 11,000 works owned by the museum, and is searchable by either keyword or category. The address is [http://www.kci.or.jp/archives/index\\_e.html](http://www.kci.or.jp/archives/index_e.html).

The archive is very easy to browse through, and is categorized

into eras and predominant silhouettes. There are interesting costumes in this archive from 1700s to 1940s, also accessories and footwear. As in the books, many of the garments are shown on mannequins, which give a lively feel than flat "display" photos. Some of the photographs are also different views of items that appear the books. Be sure to use the navigation arrows to return to the main "index view" while browsing.



in

Photographs shown with a plus sign on the lower right corner contain detailed descriptions and historical background information for the item. You can also get a photo, which allows zooming and panning of the mannequin. Viewing those photos requires that you use Internet Explorer, allow pop-up windows on your browser and install Viewpoint Media Player software (3-5 minutes on a 56k modem connection)

Viewpoint is not available on MacOS X, but you still get the basic photo. If you use Firefox or don't install the plugin on Windows, you don't get the basic photo at all. The gallery had nine photos of this type when I checked it.



The main drawback to the collection is that it showcases very expensive, upper-class clothing, mostly for women. This is not really surprising since that is the type of clothing most likely to survive in good condition. In some eras, particularly in the 20th century, male costume is also underrepresented.

While you are on the site, check out the exhibit links to find online components from a few other exhibits. The KCI believes that "clothing is an essential manifestation of our very being" and their passion and dedication positively radiates from these photos.

### Do You Do ICG-D?

In addition to the newsletter, ICG hosts an online discussion forum on the Yahooogroup called ICG-D, where members can share ideas, get answers to questions, and talk with others with similar interests in the costuming community. Although ICG maintains it primarily for members, others in the costuming community are also welcome to join and participate.

How popular is ICG-D? While ICG has nearly 250 members, the ICG-D Yahooogroup has close to 400 members, making it one of the largest Yahooogroups for costuming. Members on ICG-D post about events, news items, costume construction problems, fabric sales, and new sources of materials to name a few. Here are just a few of the recent topics that members are discussing:

- Fancy footwear from ancient Egypt
- Sources for brushed micro-fiber elastic
- The Duchess of Devonshire Ball
- Rooms for Dragon-Con
- New issues of ICG chapter newsletters posted
- An extensive collection of historical garments for sale
- Reproducing pre-embroidered shisha mirrors
- Detroit hair wars
- Forry Ackerman's early sci-fi costumes

Where else but ICG-D could you find such an interesting mix of topics and people? You can receive daily digests of items in your mail box, or opt to read them online. To join, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/icg-d>. It's fun, and best of all it's free!

## Recent Newsletter and Ezine Updates

### CACTUS NEEDLES, AUGUST 2010 Southwest Costumers' Guild (SWCG)



The most recent issue includes news of chapter, local and regional costuming events, a report on Westercon 2010. It also includes an article on making a "biggin", a close-fitting hood or skullcap that is popular with medieval and renaissance re-enactors, and a report on a Star Trek themed wedding.

Cactus Needles is published monthly, and is available to SWCG members and the entire costuming community upon publication

<http://www.southwestcostumersguild.org/>

### THE VIRTUAL COSTUMER, VOLUME 8 ISSUE 2, MAY 2010 Silicon Web Costumers' Guild (SiW)

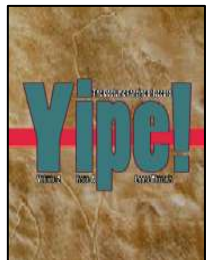


The most recent "community issue" is all about Steampunk and Gaslamp costuming. It features an interview with Phil & Kaja Foglio, a Virtual Tour of the TechShop, Steampunking Othello, Costume-Con 28, and much more.

VC is published quarterly. The "community issue" is available free to the entire costuming community. SiW members can access issues three months in advance.

[http://www.siwcostumers.org/vc\\_current-issue.html](http://www.siwcostumers.org/vc_current-issue.html)

### YIPE! ISSUE 2. 8, AUGUST 2010 A privately published costuming ezine.



*Yipe!* is a monthly, costume-dedicated e-fanzine edited by ICG member Kevin Roche and Jason Shachat, with staff photographer and ICG member Andrew Trembley. This image-heavy pictorial format is dedicated to the transformative art of costume in social venues. With contributions from an international assortment of costumers, photographers, and writers.

*Yipe!* is available free to the entire costuming community upon publication, in high- and low- resolution editions.

<http://www.yipezine.com/>

Send community-accessible newsletter updates to <mailto:newsletter@costume.org>.

## Featured ICG Chapter WebSite

### CHICAGOLAND COSTUMERS' GUILD (CCG) <http://www.chicostume.org>

The Chicagoland Costumers' Guild, aka, "The Masters of Bravado" (MOB), covers the Greater Chicago, Illinois area, but includes members from surrounding communities of northern Illinois. According to their website, they are "a club for people who love to costume and do costuming-related activities together."



The main page of the website includes upcoming meetings, chapter officers, information about joining "the MOB," and links to their By-Laws and their Yahoogroup.

Also featured are links to panel handouts from WindyCon 35 and 36, and a video of a masquerade presentation by a group of CCG members at Costume-Con 28 entitled,

"Backstage at the Heterodyne Show." It won best-in-class Journeyman.

Other pages of the website include:

- Three-month calendar of CCG events
- Photo Album Gallery
- Six-month list ("inevitably incomplete") of costume and cosplay events
- Also featured is a page of resources and links for costuming supplies
- Other resources for CCG members only.

The panel handouts are especially useful as resources for all ICG members. A sampling of the titles includes:

- Beyond Textiles
- Pattern Reading
- Altering a Commercial Historical Pattern
- Metalwork 101
- Elizabethan Life for a Middle Class Town Person

The Chicagoland Costumers' Guild website provides an interesting look into the costumers and their activities in the "Windy City," and offers resources that will be useful to costumers throughout ICG and the costuming community.