

Conservation Report (English abstract):

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NOTES	Conservation treatments have been undertaken by the students of Artesis Hogeschool Antwerpen; In situ during Paper Fashion Exhibition in the MoMu, spring 2009; Under the supervision of Baudouin Desmaele, Teacher of the Paper Conservation Studio, baudouin.desmaele@artesis.be .
REF. ATOPOS	2006.02.256
SUBJECT	Eugene Mc Carthy campaign dress.
DESCRIPTION	Women's dress with printed portrait of senator E. Mc Carthy.
CREATOR	Norman Rockwell.
NATURE	Unwoven material (paper).
DATE OF PRODUCTION	1968
PRIMARY SUPPORT	Paper, web designed.
MEDIA	Ink: grey (portrait); blue and red (stripes).
MOUNTING	2 pieces of paper (face and back) are sewed together; Arms and neck parts are reinforced with tiny strips of textile (sewed).
GENERAL CONDITION	Poor condition; Large tears; Lighting degradation.
PHYSICAL DEGRADATION	1. The Dress have been used, thereafter stored Folded. The folded parts have been mechanical degraded.
PHYSIOCHEMICAL DETERIORATION	2. Upper side of the folded dress have been submits to extensive lightning, causing inner degradation. (Media doesn't seem to have been discoloured).
CONCLUSION	Origins of the Tears: 3. The combination of the two factors (folding and lighting degradation) led to extra weak areas > the folded parts exposed to extensive lighting.
TREATMENTS	Surface cleaning with soft brush; Mending of the paper: A Secondary support is prepared with thinned synthetic paste; Tapes of this prepared paper are cut; Reactivation of the paste with alcohol; Tears are backed with those tapes; Use of light temperature in order to help the drying; Final drying under light pressure.
PRODUCTS	Conservation vacuum cleaner; Paste: Methyl methacrylate and butyl acrylate

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thickened with acrylic butylester (Lascaux hv 498); Mending paper: 16 g. Kozo handmade paper; Ethanol.

Different reasons led us to chose this mending procedure in place of traditional treatment: 1. Artefact: Modern artefact; Untouched; Do not have to be wear, only exposed. 2. Our treatment: Modern approach; No water, no dis-formation of the support; No solvent in contact with the original support: no stain and no transfer of paste into the original support; Paste is on the lining tapes, only "light" contact with original support.

Result: the less Interventionist procedure; the most easily Reversible mending process.

Note: According to the specialized literature the Lascaux hv 498 paste is years-long easily re-activated with solvents. Which permit reversibility and rectification of the mending.



Norman Rockwell Mc Carthy campaign Dress, Before Treatments.

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Close up, before Conservation Treatments.
This dress have been extensively wear before stored folded.
Extensive lighting led to weakening,
Mechanical wears along the folded parts.



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Norman Rockwell Mc Carthy campaign Dress after Conservation Treatments.

