## ART OF THE COLLECTION

## ${\it The Design Spirit of American Fashion Artist}$

Audrey Schilt

For over thirty years Audrey Schilt, an alumni of FIT's Illustration department, has sketched and designed for some of the most revered names in the fashion industry. Schilt got her start working aside fashion icon Halston and sketched for him many of the stylish hats for which Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis became known—including the now-famous pillbox hat. After sketching Halston's first line, Schilt moved into freelance work and began creating fashion ads for such marquis clients as The New York Times, Vanity Fair, and Bergdorf Goodman.

Schilt is perhaps best known for her work at Polo/Ralph Lauren New York. Audrey worked with Ralph Lauren side by side for twenty-two years as he built his fashion empire. Schilt helped Lauren interpret and illustrate his creative ideas and eventually became his Creative Director of Collection, VP.

Highlights from her tenure at the label include collaborating with Lauren on the now-famous pink silk gown Gwyneth Paltrow wore to the 1998 Academy Awards and designing the white silk and organza gown worn by Emmy Rossum to the 2005 Golden Globes.



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