



The Making of an Elizabethan Medici Lace Collar by **Ashlyn Sminkey**

(Theater Major/Costume & Fashion Design Minor)

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The Research and References

- The collar is planned to be a replica of actual collars worn through the late 1500s and early 1600s.
- They were worn by men and women and made popular by Marie de' Medici, the queen of France.

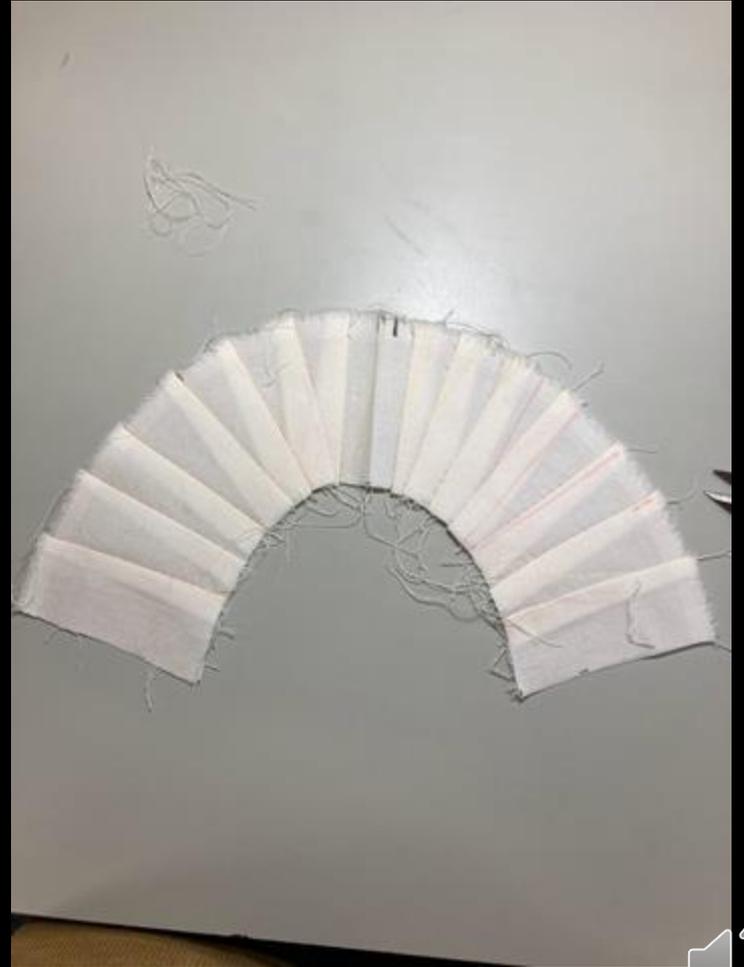


- Medici collar from, *The Metropolitan Museum of Art*
- James VI of Scotland, *Wiess Gallery*



Always start with a Mockup

- Mock-up: A model or replica, used for instructional or experimental purposes.
- The mockup for this project was a piece of muslin.
- This was used to experiment with the shape and dart placement intended for the first layer of lace.



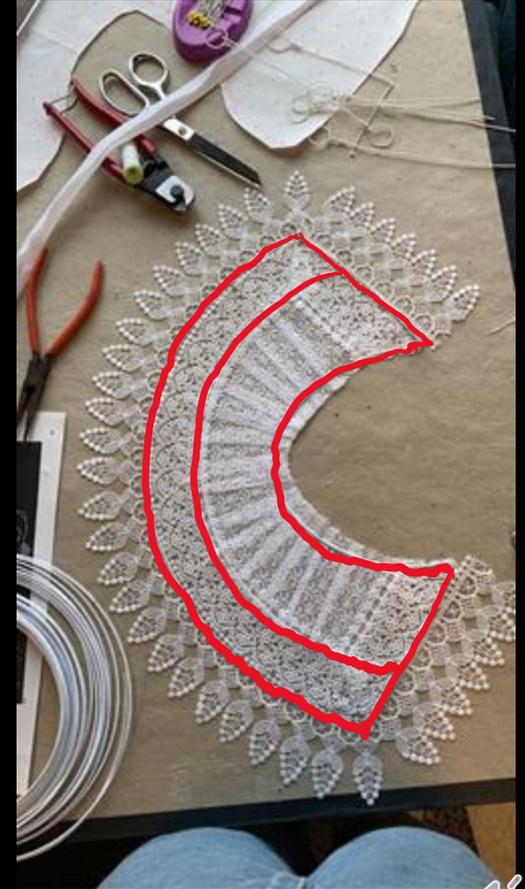
Pleating & Hand Sewing Layers

- The first layer of lace is cut out and danted based on the successful mockup
- The second and third layers are cut to match the length of the first layer and then hand sewn together



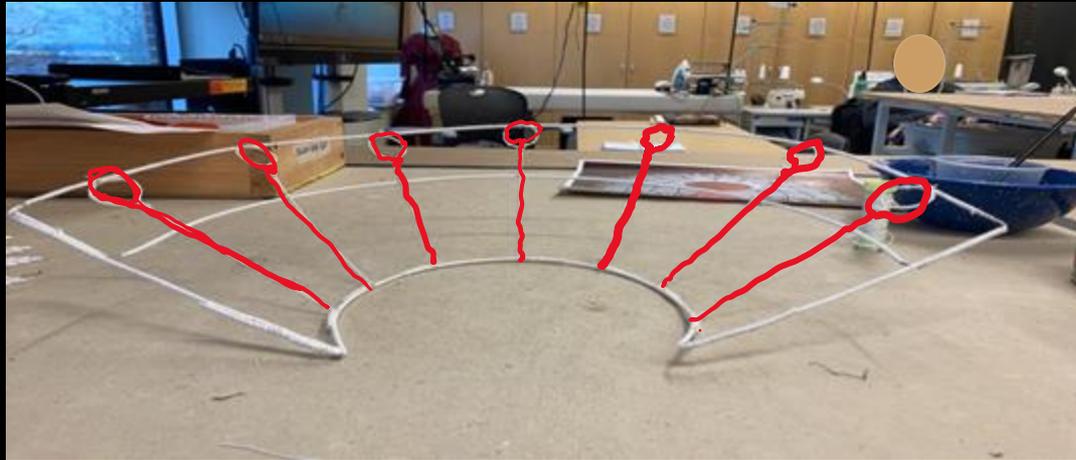
The Hat Wire Frame

- The milenary wire is laid out, cut, and connected by thread, to support the structure of the lace and hold it up.



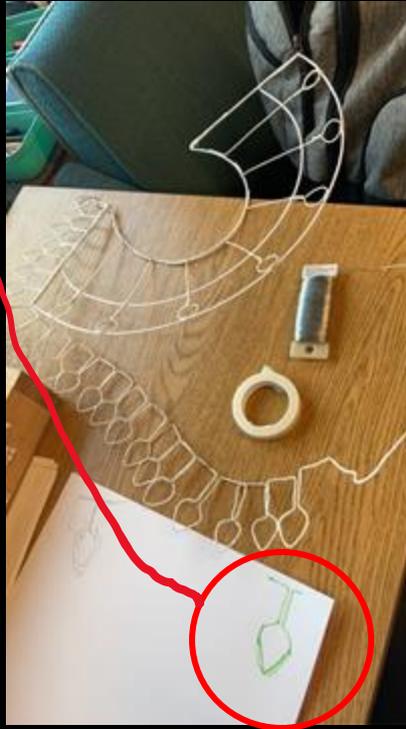
Frame & Wrapped wire incerts

- Long key shaped pieces of wrapped wire are attached to the frame as additional support to the lace.

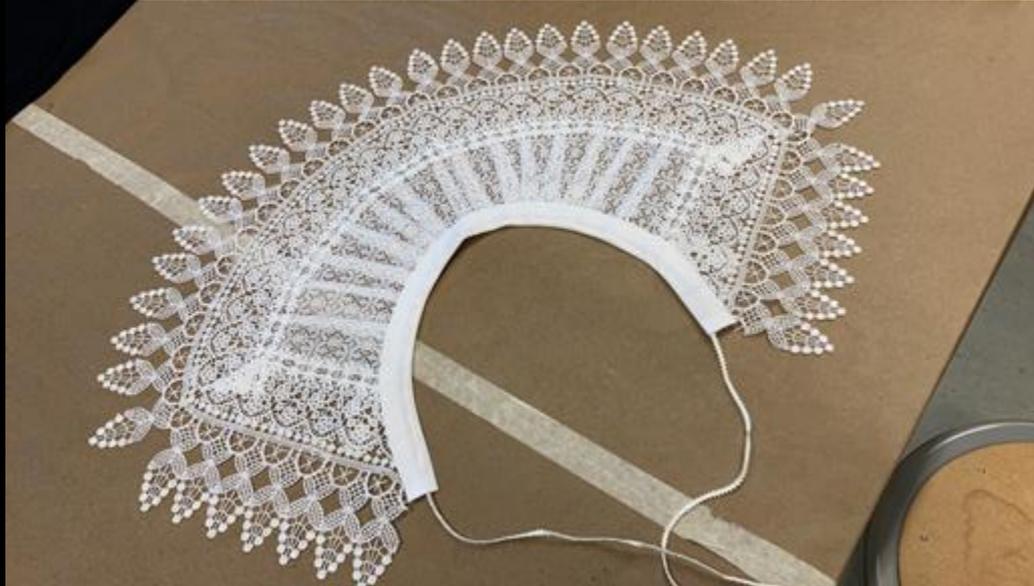


The Floral Wire Keyholes

- Floral wire is bent to a drawn pattern to make 40 extensions
- They are attached to the top wire to support the last layer of lace



The Collar & String



- Here shows the three layers of lace that make up the collar
- A linen casing is sewn to the neckline and a long piece of ribbon is fed through to act as draw-strings



Attaching Lace to Frame

- The lace and frame are attached together by hand sewing the seams of the lace to the wire, and by hand tacking all the little lace extensions to their wire support.



On Display!

Roughly 30 hours were spent on this project.

This was started Oct 29th and was completed by Jan 16th



Works Cited

Book Reference:

Arnold, J. Levy, S. Tramani, J. (2008). *[Patterns of Fashion 4: The Cut and Construction of Linen Shirts, Smocks, Neckwear, Headwear and Accessories for Men and Women C. 1540–1660]* [Author: Arnold, Janet] [October 2008] (4th ed.). Costume andamp; Fashion Press/Quite Specific Media.

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Medici Collar History:

Maldonado, V. P., & Maldonado, V. P. (2017, February 24). *Medici collar*. Fashion History Timeline. Retrieved April 5, 2022, from <https://fashionhistory.fitnyc.edu/medici-collar/#:%7E:text=Medici%20collar%20A%20collar%20that%20stands%20upright%20on,16th%20century%2C%20taking%20her%20name%20two%20centuries%20later.>