

# Olivia Elias

Fashion Textiles

Prof. Lacen

# Elizabeth Taylor

- Elizabeth Taylor began her acting career in the 1940s and from there her amazing talent in acting began to improve and be recognized by many directors.
- One specific movie I liked was *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Her character in this movie was named Maggie.
- The cat refers to a particular fantasy of femininity and feminine desire. The play's primary cat is Maggie, a typically hysterical, dissatisfied Williams heroine who prostrates herself before Brick. Maggie's loneliness has made her a "cat," hard, anxious, and bitter. The exhilaration of Williams's dramaturgy lies in the force of the audience's identification with this heroine, a woman desperate in her sense of lack, masochistically bound to man who does not want her, and made all the more beautiful in her envy, longing, and dispossession
- Elizabeth Taylor's whole wardrobe in the movie was designed and styled by designer Helen Rose who she had a close relationship with. Elizabeth always chose Helen as her designer and stylist.
- In this movie Elizabeth wears a white Chiffon dress designed and made by Helen Rose

# Helen Rose

- Helen Rose was one of the rare designers who became chief costume designer for a major film studio
- Her style was elegant but still innovative(original) and Natural Looking.
- Rose enjoyed working with Chiffon, a very difficult fabric to work with. She loved the way it moved and picked up the light.
- She had a few jobs before obtaining the position as Chief Costume Designer. ( Fox studios, Lester costume company and Ice Follies, )
- In 1943 she was hired by Louis B. Mayer at MGM as a staff designer and then as chief costume designer was given to her.



# Chiffon Fabric

- Lightweight balanced plain woven sheer fabric with S and Z twist crepe (High Twist) yarns
- Chiffon used to be made purely from silk but then a nylon version of chiffon was invented.
- In 1958 polyester Chiffon was invented which became very popular due to its resilience and low cost.
- Chiffon is mainly used for evening gowns especially because of an elegant and floating appearance that it gives which is why Helen Rose chose the White chiffon dress for Elizabeth because of her body movement and beauty. She also stated that Elizabeth had a very nice figure.

- under a Magnifying Glass Chiffon resembles a fine net or mesh which gives it some transparency.



# Waist Cinching White Chiffon Dress





## Taffeta

- Smooth and stiff at the same time
- Taffeta is produced in India and Pakistan
- Taffeta can be made from silk or synthetic fibers such as nylon. It was originally made from silk, but synthetics have become more popular in recent years.



# Celia Kritharioti

- ▶ the owner of the oldest Greek fashion house opened in Athens in 1906
- ▶ used fabrics like silk lace from paris, Tulle, Taffeta, and precious stones.
- ▶ Chiffon and Taffeta both adapt to light, both materials contain silk in it giving it a smooth and rich finish once done.

