



Groesbeck, Dan Sayre, artist. *Costume design for Edna May Oliver as the Nurse in George Cukor's 1936 MGM film of Romeo and Juliet*. Watercolor, ca. 1936. United States: Metro Goldwyn-Mayer, ca. 1936. Folger ART Box G874 no.1 (extra large)

Produced by industry boy wonder Irving Thalberg, MGM's 1936 version of *Romeo and Juliet* drips with everything Hollywood's wealthiest studio had to offer: immense sets, lavish costumes, and, of course, stars. Norma Shearer (Juliet), Thalberg's wife, was one of MGM's top stars; sensitive Leslie Howard's (Romeo) career was on the rise, though John Barrymore's (Mercutio) wasn't, as his alcoholism weakened his ability to act. Edna May Oliver -- here decked out as the nurse in a costume design for the film -- was one of the many expert character actresses employed by MGM.

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