

Guide to the Patrick Wilen Photographs

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Wilen, Patrick
Title:	Patrick Wilen Photographs
ID:	PH-00472
Date [inclusive]:	2002 to 2007
Physical Description:	52 Digital Files (9.120 GB)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Patrick Wilen Photographs (2002-2007) contain fashion and advertising digital photographs shot by Wilen in and around Las Vegas, Nevada for <i>Gala</i> magazine in Paris, <i>Las Vegas Magazine</i> , <i>Playboy</i> magazine, and Wayne Newton. Images also include photoshoots with vedette and burlesque dancer Dita Von Teese at the Crazy Horse theatre at the MGM Grand and photoshoots at the Stardust Resort and Casino.

Preferred Citation

Patrick Wilen Photographs, 2002-2007. PH-00472. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f11797>.

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Biographical Note

Patrick Wilen is a former freelance fashion photographer who was born in Basel, Switzerland on August 30, 1960 to Yovonne Wilen, an artist, and Barney Wilen, jazz musician. After his parents' divorce he was adopted by Sandro Bocola who was a writer, artist, and graphic designer. Wilen was raised by Bocola and his mother and was raised in Basel and Monaco and attended school in Zurich, including one year in the photography program at the Zurich School of Applied Arts. At the age of 17, Wilen worked as a photographer's assistant to W.S. Eberle followed by mandatory military training where he worked as an artillery photographer in the Swiss Army. Wilen also worked as a photographer's assistant to Guido Bini in Milan, Italy and worked with Eberle again as a studio manager and second photographer. In his early twenties, Wilen worked as a freelance

fashion and commercial photographer in Zurich before moving to Paris in 1982, where he worked for fashion photographers including Leo Paul Erhardt, Eddy Kohli, and Ken Browar.

Wilen began securing commercial and fashion photography jobs for *L'Officiel* magazine and photographed model Linda Evangelista for the French edition of *Harper's Bazaar*. He began to receive regular assignments from fashion publications including *ELLE*, *Marie Claire*, and *Votre Beauté*. In 2000, Wilen relocated to New York City to take on assignments for Avon, *Univision*, *Playboy*, and *Vegas Magazine*. He shot a commercial campaign for Wayne Newton and the Borgata Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey. In 2007, he relocated back to Zurich, retired from fashion photography, and transitioned into the wine business with his own brand, DON. As of 2025, Wilen is retired.

Source:

Patrick Wilen, email message to Aaron Mayes, October 5, 2026.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Patrick Wilen Photographs (2002-2007) contain fashion and advertising digital photographs shot by Wilen in and around Las Vegas, Nevada for *Gala* magazine in Paris, *Las Vegas Magazine*, *Playboy* magazine, and Wayne Newton. Images also include photoshoots with vedette and burlesque dancer Dita Von Teese at the Crazy Horse theatre at the MGM Grand and photoshoots at the Stardust Resort and Casino.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

This material is made available to facilitate private study, scholarship, or research. Copyright for materials in this collection is held by the donor. Users are responsible for determining whether permissions are necessary from rights owners for any intended use and for obtaining all required permissions. Please contact UNLV Special Collections and Archives (special.collections@unlv.edu) for additional information.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2026 by Patrick Wilen; accession number 2026-069.

Appraisal Note

Acquired by Visual Materials Curator, Aaron Mayes, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives holdings in entertainment. All material that formed the original gift has been retained.

Processing Note

In 2026, Tammi Kim transferred the digital files off of a flash drive and entered the descriptions in ArchivesSpace.

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Names and Subjects

- photographs
- Fashion photography
- Newton, Wayne
- Von Teese, Dita, 1972-
- Stardust Resort and Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Wayne Newton advertising campaign: digital images, 2002 (Wayne_Newton) Physical Description: 4 Digital Files (0.637 GB) TIF	digital file 00
Best of Vegas Magazine: digital images, 2003 (Best_Of_Vegas_Magazine) Physical Description: 2 Digital Files (0.207 GB) TIF	digital file 00
Crazy Horse show at the MGM Grand for <i>Playboy</i> magazine: digital images, 2006 (Crazy_Horse_Playboy_MGM_Grand)	digital file 00

Physical Description: 11 Digital Files (3.230 GB) TIF		
Showgirl on stage at the Stardust theatre for <i>Gala</i> magazine: digital images, 2005 (Gala_Showgirl)	digital file 00	
Physical Description: 2 Digital Files (0.213 GB) TIF		
Amber Arbucci photoshoot at the Stardust and Rick Thomas Mansion for <i>Gala</i> magazine: digital images, 2005 (Gala_Star)	digital file 00	
Physical Description: 8 Digital Files (0.872 GB) TIF		
Photoshoot at Jean Lake and McCullough mountain range for <i>Gala</i> magazine: digital images, 2006 (Gala_High_Noon)	digital file 00	
Physical Description: 7 Digital Files (1.040 GB) TIF		
Stardust photoshoot for <i>Gala</i> magazine: digital images, 2006 (Gala_Stardust)	digital file 00	
Physical Description: 12 Digital Files (1.800 GB) TIF		
Dita Von Teese at Crazy Horse theatre at the MGM Grand for <i>Gala</i> magazine: digital images, 2007 (Dita_Von_Teese_Crazy_Horse_MGM_Grand)	digital file 00	
Physical Description: 6 Digital Files (1.160 GB) TIF		