March 11, 1969 K. W. BONIECKI ET AL 3,432,099

FIGURE HAVING AN ASSOCIATED SPRAY OF LIQUID SIMULATING WEARING APPAREL

Filed Feb. 20, 1967

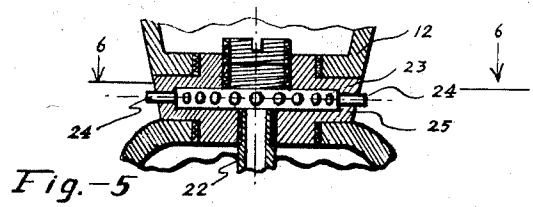


Fig.—5

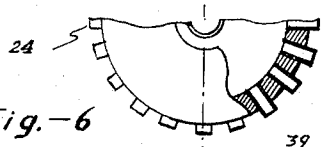


Fig.—6

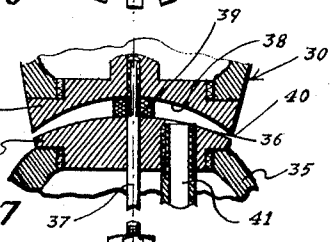


Fig.—7

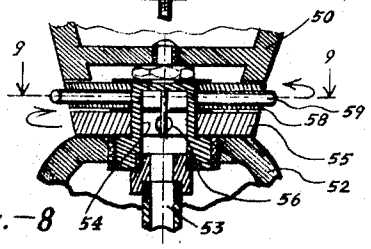


Fig.—8

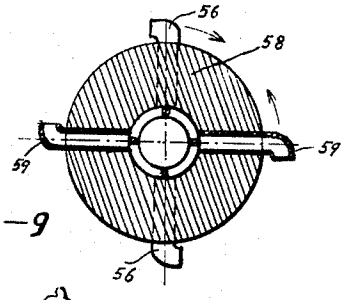


Fig.—9

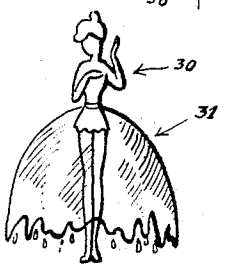


Fig.—2

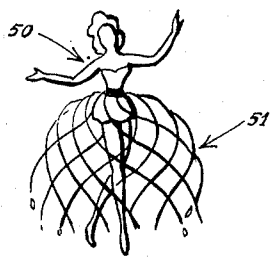


Fig.—4

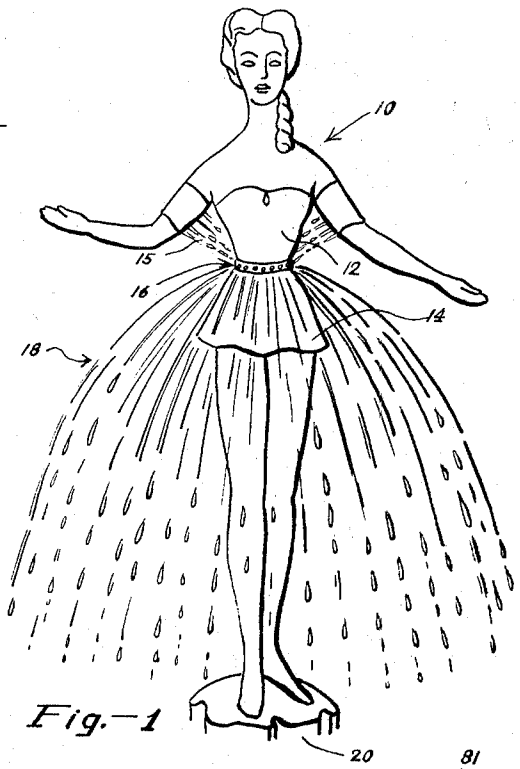


Fig.—1

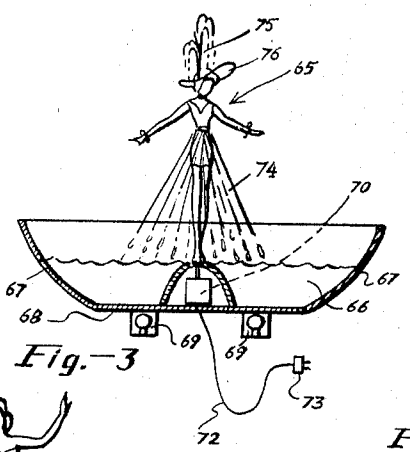


Fig.—3

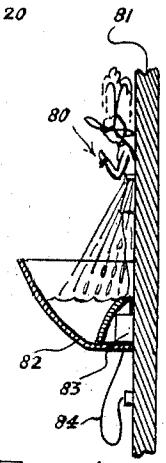


Fig.—10

INVENTORS
KRYSTYNA W. BONIECKI
MARIA ALBIN BONIECKI
BY:
Richard D. Law
attorney

United States Patent Office

3,432,099

Patented Mar. 11, 1969

3,432,099

FIGURE HAVING AN ASSOCIATED SPRAY OF LIQUID SIMULATING WEARING APPAREL

Krystyna W. Boniecki and Maria Albin Boniecki, both of 1822 S. Sherman St., Denver, Colo. 80210

Filed Feb. 20, 1967, Ser. No. 617,154

U.S. Cl. 239—18 10 Claims

Int. Cl. B05b 1/14, 17/08

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A decorative fountain having a figure, which may be a three-dimensional statue, high or low or base relief, medallion, picture or the like, has liquid spray openings located at different levels and locations of the figure body, providing a spray of liquid assuming the shape of wearing apparel, such as a garment, a dress or a portion of a garment for the figure. In one form the figure is a representation of a human female and has openings at about the level of the waist of the figure to provide a flow of liquid which has the appearance of a skirt for the figure. In another form, spray openings located above the chest will form a spray of liquid having the appearance of a full dress for the figure. The spray of liquid may be made as a series of small jets, a full peripheral sheet of liquid flowing from the figure, or animated jets such as formed by a rotary sprinkler. In each instance, a spray of liquid in a different shape and form of wearing apparel is provided for the figure. In darkened areas colored lights effectively and dramatically show up the water apparel for the statue, magically transforming the configuration of the figure.

Included among the objects and advantages of the invention is to provide a decorative fountain having a figure or statue with a spray of liquid representing wearing apparel or portion thereof such as is worn by human beings.

A further object of the invention is to provide a figure or statue of human form having a spray pattern of a liquid formed integrally with the figure, and the spray having the appearance of wearing apparel such as a dress or a portion of a dress.

Another object of the invention is to provide a figure representing a human female figure provided with spray openings at different positions on the figure body to provide different sizes and shapes of wearing apparel formed of a spray of the liquid, representing different fashions, different styles and different epochs of time.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a figure of a human body arranged with a spray of liquid from different levels forming a spray of liquid in the shape of a dress for the figure, and the figure may be represented by a three-dimensional statue, high or low relief, or similar decorative media representing the human form.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a figure of a human form provided with a spray of a liquid from various locations on the figure, representing wearing apparel for the figure, with the spray being a full peripheral spray or a portion thereof repersenting some type of wearing apparel and forming a total composition with the figure.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention may be readily ascertained by referring to the following description and appanded illustrations in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of one form of the invention illustrating a statue of the human female form, with a liquid skirt and shawl formed of sprays of liquid from the figure;

FIG. 2 is a schematic elevation of a figure of the human female form utilizing a sheet of liquid forming a skirt therefor;

FIG. 3 is a schematic elevational view of a figure according to the invention mounted in a fountain trough or catch basin, shown in section, provided with a pump for continuously providing a spray of liquid forming a skirt for the figure;

FIG. 4 is a schematic elevational view of a statue illustrating an animated liquid spray forming a different configuration of a skirt for the figure;

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view of a portion of a figure at the waist level, illustrating one form of spray arrangement for forming a skirt for the figure;

FIG. 6 is a fragmentary section of FIG. 5, taken along section line 6—6, showing the spray arrangement for the figure;

FIG. 7 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view of a figure, taken at about the waist level, illustrating another spray arrangement for forming a sheet of liquid for a skirt;

FIG. 8 is a fragmentary cross-section taken at about the waist of a figure, illustrating a pair of rotative sprayers for forming an animated liquid skirt for a figure;

FIG. 9 is a cross-sectional view of the mechanism of FIG. 8, showing a rotary spray arrangement; and

FIG. 10 illustrates the use of a figure as a frieze or base relief for mounting on a wall, with a catch basin and pump providing a continuous spray of circulating liquid therefor.

In general, the invention includes a figure, in one preferred form that of a human female, normally in standing position in any desired pose, and provided with a supply line for liquid extending to at least one spray opening associated with the figure which may be at the waist, the shoulders or other location for providing a stream of liquid to the sprayers, forming a spray having the appearance of wearing apparel, such as a dress, a skirt, a portion of a dress or other wearing apparel for the figure formed of a spray of the liquid. The liquid may be clear water, colored water, or other liquid for forming the costume or dress or portion of dress. As is conventional with many types of fountains, a catch basin may be provided around the statue to catch the spray from the fountain. A pump, normally an electric pump, provides continuous circulation of the liquid from the catch basin to the figure and forming the spray. Thus, the figure of the invention may be provided with a recirculating system for the liquid or may be provided with a direct connection to a water or other liquid line. From an aesthetic standpoint the liquid supply line should normally pass internally of the figure to the spray area; however, the concept of the invention includes an external line to an external spray area, for example, a supply line representing a belt around the waist of the figure with the spray issuing from orifices in the belt peripherally thereof. Obviously, the invention contemplates exterior fountains as well as interior fountains. Various types of lighting dramatically highlight the liquid apparel or portion of a dress for the figure. Additionally, the figure may represent a nude, a partially dressed or fully dressed human, with the spray still providing a dramatic transformation of the figure by the liquid dress.

As shown in FIG. 1 a statue or figure, shown in general

by numeral **10**, of a female is provided with a ballet costume consisting of an upper portion **12** and a small skirt **14**. A spray arrangement, illustrated in general by numeral **16**, provides a spray of liquid **18** peripherally of the waist of the figure, forming a flowing skirt thereof. The figure is standing on a base or pedestal **20**. A series of spray jets **15** form a stole or shawl for the figure. The figure of FIG. 1 is shown with a plurality of orifices at the waist forming the spray for the skirt, and a mechanism for forming the same is illustrated in FIGS. 5 and 6. A liquid line **22** extends through a leg and torso of the figure to an internal chamber **23** in a connector portion **25** at the waist of the figure. A plurality of small tubes **24** extend through the connector **25** at the torso of the figure to provide the spray of liquid from the chamber. The number of the tubes providing spray is determined by the shape or the size of the skirt desired. When water or other liquid is forced through the supply line **22** into the chamber **23** it issues as a plurality of spray jets from the orifices in the tubes **24**. Where a catch basin and circulating pump is provided, a pulsating pump may be used to provide an animated skirt continuously moving with the pulsations of the pump. The skirt may be made to appear to be formed of a series of drops or strips of water issuing from the spray jets by means of lighting. The pressure of the liquid may be adjusted to change the shape and the size of the skirt. Additionally, the spray jets or outlet tubes at the waist of the figure may be turned slightly upwardly to change the shape of the skirt. Further, the size and shape of the openings in the tubes may be varied to produce different designs of the liquid drops.

As shown in FIG. 2, a figure **30** is provided with a skirt **31** formed of a sheet of water issuing from the waist of the figure. The mechanism for this arrangement is illustrated in FIG. 7 wherein the torso of the figure is formed of two parts at the waist. A lower part **33** is mounted on a hip portion **35** of the statue and it is provided with an arcuate top **36**. A stud or bolt **37** extends through the part **33** and threadedly engages the upper part **34**. The upper part **34** has an arcuate bottom **38** to provide a chamber between the two parts. A rubber grommet **39** is mounted around the rod **37** and provides means for adjusting an opening **40** which extends peripherally around the waist of the statuette. A supply line **41** which may extend through a leg of the statuette communicates with the chamber **38**, providing means for supplying liquid to the chamber which issues as a sheet out of the peripheral opening **40**. The opening may be adjusted to conform with the pressure and volume of liquid in the chamber between the two parts. The direction of the issuing liquid from the opening is controlled by the geometry of the surfaces forming the opening, thereby directing the liquid downwardly, outwardly or upwardly as desired.

In FIG. 4 a statuette **50** is provided with a double layer, animated skirt **51** formed by rotative sprayers, the mechanism of which is illustrated in FIGS. 8 and 9. A lower torso portion **52** of a statue is connected to an upper torso portion **50** by means of a sprayer mechanism which is arranged in two levels and includes rotative jets. A supply line **53** extends through a leg of the statue and is in communication with a manifold chamber **54**. A lower rotative disc **55** having a pair of opposed directed jet tubes **56** communicates with the manifold **54** and liquid passing from the manifold through the jet tubes **56** exhaust at substantially high velocity, giving a rotative movement thereto as indicated by the arrow. An upper disc **58** having a pair of opposed tubes **59** each of which extends outwardly and has a 90° outlet which provide a rotative action indicated by the arrows in FIG. 9 as liquid passing from the manifold through the tubes exhausts through the outlets. Thus, a two-level animated skirt is formed having a crossing spiral effect. Obviously, two or more levels may be provided, depending upon the desires of the maker. Additionally, the effect may be completely changed by providing a single rotative sprayer combined with a straight spray arrangement, with the rotative sprayer either above or below the other, forming a different pattern for the skirt of the model.

As illustrated in FIG. 3, a figure shown in general by numeral **65** is mounted in a catch basin **66**. The basin **66** is provided with opaque sides **67** and a transparent or at least translucent bottom **68**. A plurality of spotlights or lamps **69** may be provided under the bottom **68** for shining up through liquid in the catch basin toward the figure. The lamps may be spotlights with changing colors or may be a series of colored spotlights arranged to be turned off and on to change the color of the spray of liquid from the figure. A recirculating pump **70**, indicated as an electrical pump, having a lead wire **72** to a standard two-prong outlet **73**, provides means for recirculating the liquid from the catch basin through the figure. An interesting innovation is to provide different colors for the dress of the figure related to changes in the weather, even connected with a barometer to change the colors automatically. Thus, different colors of the lights would indicate different weather conditions. The figure is provided with a spray pattern **74** in the shape of a skirt, and a spray pattern **75** forming plumage for a hat **76**.

As illustrated in FIG. 10, a base relief or frieze **80** is attached to a wall **81** in conventional fashion; however, a catch basin **82** is provided below the figure, and a pump **83** with an electric lead **84** provides for recirculating the liquid from the catch basin through the figure to provide a recirculated flow for forming the skirt for the figure. Thus, when only a portion of the figure is represented, a dress or other wearing apparel for the figure may still be provided in a similar manner, using less than a full peripheral shape for the spray, or using only a spray forming an outline of the wearing apparel.

While the invention has been illustrated by reference to a particular embodiment, there is no intent to limit the spirit or the scope of the invention to the precise details so set forth except as defined in the following claims.

We claim:

1. A decorative fountain figure simulating a human form having; liquid outlet means formed with said figure at a position to direct a spray of liquid therefrom, said spray being directed from said figure and simulating a garment of human wearing apparel; and means for supplying liquid to said liquid outlet means.

2. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **1** wherein said figure represents a human female form and said liquid outlet means is positioned at about the waist of said figure and arranged to simulate a skirt therefor.

3. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **2** wherein said liquid outlet means is a series of closely spaced outlets for spraying liquid outwardly peripherally at about the waist of said figure simulating a full skirt therefor.

4. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **2** wherein said liquid outlet means is a peripheral slit at about the waist of the figure for forming a peripheral sheet of liquid directed outwardly from the figure and simulating a skirt formed of a sheet of falling liquid.

5. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **2** wherein said liquid outlet means is at least a pair of outlets spaced at different levels, and of said pair of outlets is a rotary sprayer, whereby liquid issuing from said sprayers forms at least two layers of sprays, simulating a multi-layer skirt for said figure.

6. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **2** wherein said liquid outlet means is a pair of rotatable sprayers mounted one above the other at about the waist of said figure, whereby liquid issuing from said sprayers forms two layers of rotating sprays simulating a multilayer, animated skirt for said figure.

7. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **1** wherein said liquid outlet means is a series of outlets arranged at different levels on said statue forming a

plurality of sprays of liquid simulating different garments of wearing apparel for said statue from different levels.

8. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **1** wherein said figure is mounted in a catch basin, and pump means recirculates a liquid for a continuous spray.

9. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **1** wherein said liquid is water, and colored lights mounted adjacent said figure are arranged to shine on said spray of liquid for changing the color of the simulated wearing apparel.

10. A decorative fountain figure according to claim **1** wherein said figure is a base relief and said spray of liquid extends from side to side forming less than a complete peripheral article of wearing apparel.

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