

[← Collections Policy Statement Index](#)

Dance

Contents

- I. Scope
- II. Research Strengths
- III. Collecting Policy
- IV. Acquisition Sources: Current and Future
- V. Collecting Levels

I. Scope

This Collection Policy Statement refers only to special collections located in the Music Division that pertain to the subject of dance. The materials covered by this statement represent various formats, including: music scores, musical holographs, correspondence and other primary source materials, such as choreographic notes; photographs; photographic negatives and contact sheets; costume, set, and lighting designs; microfilms, machine-readable materials, and ephemera. All audio recordings, video recordings, film, and motion pictures related to the subject of dance are under the custodianship of Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound and are not covered in this Statement.

II. Research Strengths

Special collections in dance, held by the *Music Division*, include unusually strong research materials for study in three areas of dance: the development of American modern dance, the Ballets Russes de Serge Diaghilev, and dance in musical theater.

Development of American Modern Dance. The Library holds the most significant materials to be found anywhere for the study of the early pioneers of American modern dance. Primary special collections in the Music Division include the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation Collection; Daniel Nagrin Collection; Erick Hawkins Collection; Helen McGehee and Umaña Collection of Dance Materials; Katherine Dunham Collection; Lester Horton Dance Theater Collection; Martha Graham Collection; Martha Graham Legacy Archive; May O'Donnell Archive; Miriam Cole Collection; Pola Nirenska Collection, Robert Ellis Dunn Collection; and Ruth St. Denis Archive. The Moselsio Collection contains photographs of Martha Graham, taken during the 1930s. The Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Collection and Music Division Old Correspondence Files contain materials on the Library of Congress's five dance commissions for works by Martha Graham and the Nathan Kroll Collection consists of manuscript and moving image materials related to the filming of Graham works. The Katherine Dunham Collection and Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation Collection provide insight into the contributions of African-American artists in the development of American modern dance. The Music Division also holds the papers of dance and music critic Alan M. Kriegsmann and dance writer Sali Ann Kriegsmann as well as the papers of music critic Irving Lowens.

To complement the Music Division's major resources on modern dance, other Division special collections used in this research include holograph manuscripts, scrapbooks, photographs, and correspondence of composers and arrangers who worked with or corresponded with many of early practitioners of modern dance.

Ballets Russes de Serge Diaghilev. The Music Division's holdings on the Ballets Russes de Serge Diaghilev are considerable and of enormous research importance, including the special collections of Adolph Bolm, Alexandra Danilova, Bronislava Nijinska, George Zoritch Archive of Photographs, the Serge Grigoriev/Ballets Russes Collection, and the Diaghilev/Serge Lifar Collection. The Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Collection and Music Division Old Correspondence Files contain a wealth of information on Coolidge's commission for dancer/choreographer Adolph Bolm, which resulted in Igor Stravinsky's composition, *Apollon Musagète* (later retitled *Apollo* and choreographed by George Balanchine for the Ballets Russes de Serge Diaghilev).

The Music Division holds other special collections that focus on ballet, including American Ballet Society, Houston Maples Bolshoi Opera and Ballet Materials, Marilyn Levine Collection of Rudolf Nureyev Materials, Miscellaneous Dance Correspondence (Fanny Elssler and Richard Beard/Pavel Tchelitchev), and the Ruth Page Materials on *Billy Sunday*.

Writings on dance and reviews can be accessed in the Alan M. and Sali Ann Kriegsman Collection and additional reviews that cover theatrical dance are located in the collection of music critic Irving Lowens.

Broadway, Musical Theater, Film, Vaudeville, Pageants, and Other Popular Entertainment. The Music Division's special collections holds four large collections that document American popular entertainment, beginning with the early roots of Vaudeville through contemporary Broadway: the Bob Hope Collection, Danny Kaye/Sylvia Fine Collection, Marge Champion Collection, and the Fosse/Verdon Collection. To complement the larger collections, the Music Division also holds the Harriet Hoctor Collection and a collection of Vaudeville Scrapbooks.

Other areas of scholarly research and additional dance resources found in the Music Division include the Franziska Boas Collection, which contains archival materials of the ethnologist and pioneer in dance therapy. Further dance resources include the Federal Theater Project Collection and the WPA Federal Music Project, which detail work in two of five arts-related projects established by Franklin Delano Roosevelt under the Works Progress Administration.

Electronic Sources available from the Library of Congress for dance (and dance-related subjects) at the Library of Congress are an important resource for scholarly inquiry and the Library has assembled numerous digital presentations about dance or related to dance.

The Performing Arts Encyclopedia is a guide to performing arts resources at the Library of Congress, providing information about the Library's unsurpassed collections of scores, sheet music, audio recordings, films, photographs, and other materials. The Encyclopedia offers entries on most of the Division's dance-related special collections as well as special web sites on modern dance icons Martha Graham and Katherine Dunham.

The Library's "American Memory" *American Ballroom Companion c. 1490-1920* is, without question, an

extremely valuable online resource for the study of social dance. In addition, more than forty Library web sites contain significant primary source material related to social dance, Western theatrical dance (ballet and modern dance), popular entertainment, folk and traditional dance, and Native American dance.

III. Collecting Policy

The Music Division maintains research level special collections in dance with a primary emphasis on dance practices in the United States. The Division also collects non-U.S. material when it is considered of importance for research.

See Music Division Collections Policy Statement.

IV. Acquisitions Sources: Current and Future

Acquisitions for special collections in dance are obtained primarily through two sources: donation and purchase. Current donations are solicited by the Music Division's Curator of Dance and sources include dancers, choreographers, and dance companies that have made an important contribution to the Division's areas of strength for dance research. Other materials are obtained through purchase via auctions or speciality dealers. All additions to the special collections in dance are vetted through the Music Division's Acquisitions Committee. The Music Division anticipates that future acquisitions of special collections in dance will continue to be obtained through donation and purchase.

V. Collecting Levels

See Music Collections Policy Statement.

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