

George Zoritch Collection

Guides to Special Collections in the Music Division of the Library of Congress



Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/perform.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/2011570504>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu016008>

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Music Division, 2016

Collection Summary

Title: George Zoritch Collection

Span Dates: 1914-2002

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1943-1987)

Call No.: ML31.Z67

Creator: Zoritch, George, 1917-2009

Extent: 159 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: 0.5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and Russian

Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2011570504>

Summary: George Zoritch was a ballet dancer in the post-Diaghilev era of the early twentieth century. The bulk of the George Zoritch Collection consists of photographs (most of them reprints), augmented by several periodicals, programs, clippings, and articles documenting his career.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Baronova, Irina--Photographs.

Danilova, Alexandra, 1907-1997--Photographs.

Hightower, Rosella--Photographs.

Markova, Alicia, Dame, 1910-2004--Photographs.

Massine, Leonide, 1896-1979--Photographs.

Preobrajenska, Olga, 1870-1962--Photographs.

Slavenska, Mia--Photographs.

Tallchief, Maria--Photographs.

Toumanova, Tamara, 1919-1996--Photographs.

Zoritch, George, 1917-2009--Interviews.

Zoritch, George, 1917-2009--Photographs.

Zoritch, George, 1917-2009.

Zoritch, George, 1917-2009.

Organizations

Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo.

Ballets russes du Col. W. de Basil.

Subjects

Ballet dancers--Photographs.

Ballet dancers.

Ballet.

Form/Genre

Articles.

Clippings (Information artifacts)

Photographic prints.

Programs (Documents)

Provenance

Gift; George Zoritch; 1998

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

The George Zoritch collection was processed by Judy Estey in 2009. Emily Flanigan updated the finding aid and coded it for EAD format in 2016.

Related Material

The Library of Congress Music Division houses the [Judith Chazin-Bennahum Photograph Collection Relating to Antony Tudor](#), the Larry Colwell Dance Photographs, and the Herta Moselsio Photograph Collection. Additional photographs of ballet and dance are found in the George Bain Collection, Arnold Genthe Collection, Carl Van Vechten Collection, and the dance portfolio of photographer Barbara Brooks Morgan, all accessible through the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress.

Copyright Status

Materials from the George Zoritch Collection are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.

Access and Restrictions

The George Zoritch Collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Music Division prior to visiting in order to determine whether the desired materials will be available at that time.

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container number], George Zoritch Collection, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Born June 6, 1917, in Moscow, Russia, George Zoritch began dancing at an early age. His teachers included Pavel Petroff, Theodore Vasiliieff, and later the renowned Olga Preobrajenskaya. At age 15, Zoritch auditioned successfully for the Ida Rubenstein Ballet company; he later danced with the Russian Classical Ballet. Zoritch danced with all of the companies that were successors to Diaghilev's Ballets Russes, including Colonel W. de Basil's Ballets Russes; Sergei Denham's Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo; and the Grand Ballet du Marquis de Cuevas. He traveled extensively through Europe, South America, and North America and taught from 1973 to 1987 in the Dance Division of the University of Arizona. He died November 1, 2009, in Tucson, Arizona.

Scope and Content Note

This one-box collection offers iconography and published materials documenting the life and dance career of George Zoritch.

The **Photographs** series includes his performances in ballets such as *Afternoon of a Faun*, *Le Spectre de la rose*, among many others, with a number of the century's greatest dancers, including Alexandra Danilova, Alicia Markova, Mia Slavenska, Rosella Hightower, and Tamara Toumanova. Also included are photographs of Zoritch with ballet teacher Olga Preobrajenskaya and choreographer Léonide Massine. It also includes numerous travel photographs, photographs with other dancers and Zoritch's family. Later photographs document him at social functions with artists in film and dance.

The **Miscellany** series includes clippings, interviews with Zoritch, reviews of his memoir *Ballet Mystique: Behind the Glamour of the Ballet Russe*, among other published material documenting his career. A three-part article on Zoritch in the Russian magazine *Ballet* as well as materials that detail Zoritch's contributions to the Dance Division at the University of Arizona are also included.

Organization of the George Zoritch Collection

The Collection is organized in two series:

- [Photographs, 1914-1997](#)
- [Miscellany, 1995-2002](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1

Series

Photographs, 1914-1997

Most of the photographs are recent reprints of historic photographs. Subjects include ballets of the 1930s and 1940s as well as informal scenes of Zoritch with his artist colleagues.

Photographs are arranged by subject as follows: ballets alphabetical by title, Zoritch alone and Zoritch with others, composites, family, artwork and awards, celebrities, Tamara Toumenova.

BOX 1

Miscellany, 1995-2002

Clippings, articles, flyers, and a dance program documenting Zoritch's career.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Photographs, 1914-1997 Most of the photographs are recent reprints of historic photographs. Subjects include ballets of the 1930s and 1940s as well as informal scenes of Zoritch with his artist colleagues. Photographs are arranged by subject as follows: ballets alphabetical by title, Zoritch alone and Zoritch with others, composites, family, artwork and awards, celebrities, Tamara Toumenova.
BOX-FOLDER 1/1	Afternoon of a faun [L'après-midi d'un faune], 1958 With Taina Elg; John Lindquist, photographer, Serge Lido, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/2	Antinoio, 1953 With George Skibine; Serge Lido, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/3	Bal des jeunes filles, 1951 With Maria Tallchief.
BOX-FOLDER 1/4	Bogatyri, 1938 With Mia Slavenska; Maurice Seymour, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/5	Cakewalk, 1958 With Nina Novak; Serge Lido, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/6	Coppelia, 1961 Guest artist in Teatre Colon, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
BOX-FOLDER 1/7	Del amor y la muerte, circa 1951
BOX-FOLDER 1/8	Devil's Holiday, 1940 With Alexandra Danilova, Frederick Franklin; Maurice Seymour, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/9	Don Quixote, 1954-1962 Maurice Seymour, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/10	Dona Inez de Castro, 1956 Annamarie Heinrich, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/11	Gaité Parisienne, 1940 Carl Van Vechten and Serge Lido, photographers.
BOX-FOLDER 1/12	Giselle, 1958 With Margrethe Schanne; Hannes Kilian, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/13	La legende des trois soeurs, 1953 With Olga Adabache, Jocelyne Vollmar and Jacqueline Moreau; Serge Lido, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/14	Les sylphides, 1939, 1952-1957 With Mia Slavenska, Alicia Markova, Irina Borowska, Jaqueline Moreau, Rosella Hightower, Tatiana Karina, Helga Manson, Denis Bourjois, Joyce Vanderveen, Jaqueline Wallmar; Henry Clay Gibson, photographer, Maurice Seymour, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/15	New Yorker, 1943 With Leo Perper, artist; Henry C. Gibson, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/16	The nutcracker, 1952 With Rosella Hightower.
BOX-FOLDER 1/17	Orphée, 1937 Television broadcast; with Irina Baronova.

Photographs, 1914-1997

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 1/18	Promenade, 1934 With Natasha Bojhkovic, Juliana Enakieva, Raisa Kousnetzova, Eleanora Mara, Cathleen Crofton, Bojhkovic, P. Petroff, Slava Toumine, Dimitry Rostoff, Ann Northcott and Molly Picon.
BOX-FOLDER 1/19	Rouge et noir, 1939 With Nini Theilade; Richard Tucker, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/20	La sonnambula [The sleepwalker], circa 1951 George Balanchine, choreographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/21	Le spectre de la rose, 1952 With Nancy Carlson; Serge Lido, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/22	Swan Lake, 1951 With Dany Robin, Claire Sombret, Violette Verdy, Brigitte Bardot; Serge Lido, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/23	Symphonie fantastique, 1937 With Betty Low, Lubov Rostova, Maurice Seymour, Nina Verchinina, Tamara Toumanova, Leonide Massine, Mark Platoff; Maurice Seymour, photographer.
BOX-FOLDER 1/24	Zoritch alone 1933-1939, 1954-1960, 1973, 1985, undated Studio and informal photographs of Zoritch; many are reproductions of earlier photos.
BOX-FOLDER 1/25	Zoritch with others, 1936-1940 Travel photos while on tour with Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo and at Warner Bros. Studio in Hollywood.
BOX-FOLDER 1/26	Zoritch with others, 1951-1966, 1980 With artists and with students. Includes: photograph of 1951 Paris newspaper photo of Zoritch with other celebrities at masked ball in Venice, Italy; Olga Preobrajenskaya teaching a class in 1952.
BOX-FOLDER 1/27	Zoritch with others, 1992-1997 With artists and students. Includes Zoritch's visits to the Heritage Museum and Diaghilev House in Russia.
BOX-FOLDER 1/28	Composite photographs, 1929-1942, 1953-1962, 1981, undated Reprints of two or four individual photographs on same sheet, with a mix of informal, travel, and performance subjects. Each scene is identified by Zoritch on the back.
BOX-FOLDER 1/29	Family, circa 1914, 1919-1923, undated Reproductions of Zoritch family photographs, including a photograph of a painting of his ancestor Count Semeon Gavrilovich.
BOX-FOLDER 1/30	Artwork and awards, undated Photographs of iconography and awards displayed in Zoritch's home.
BOX-FOLDER 1/31	Celebrities, 1938-1940, 1958-1968, undated Includes: group of four ballerinas of Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo (Mia Slavenska, Alexandra Danilova, Alicia Markova, Irina Baronova); reproductions of autographed photographs (Preobrajenskaya, Valentina Pereyaslavec, Yvette Chauviré, Loretta Young, and Eleanor Powell).
BOX-FOLDER 1/32	Tamara Toumanova, Beverly Hills, California, 1977-1980, 1996 Includes: Zoritch visiting Tamara Toumanova; Toumanova with Taitiana Riabouchinska and Irina Baronova at Ballet Russe retrospective exhibit celebration; Zoritch at Tamara Toumanova's grave.
BOX 1	Miscellany, 1995-2002 Clippings, articles, flyers, and a dance program documenting Zoritch's career.

Miscellany, 1995-2002

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 1/33	Clippings, 2000-2002, undated Photocopies of newspaper clippings, flyers, and periodical articles. English translations of Russian publications provided by Zoritch.
BOX-FOLDER 1/34	Ballet magazine, 1995-1996 Three issues of Russian-language magazine <i>Ballet</i> , featuring autobiographical articles by Zoritch; English transcripts provided by Zoritch.
BOX-FOLDER 1/35	Dance Expression, 2002 Issue includes article on Varna International Competition, where Zoritch sat on press jury.
BOX-FOLDER 1/36	Dance Program, 2001 Performance titled "Odyssey 2001" at University of Arizona.