Valeria Ladd Collection on the Revived Greek Dance
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://lccn.loc.gov/2013572135

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu016010

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress
Collection Summary

Title: Valeria Ladd Collection on the Revived Greek Dance
Span Dates: 1924-1967
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1932-1934)
Call No.: ML31.L32
Creator: Ladd, Valeria, 1892-1984
Extent: 83 items
Extent: 1 container
Extent: 0.5 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2013572135
Summary: Valeria Gibson Ladd was a dancer with the Noyes School of Rhythm during the 1930s. This collection, consisting almost entirely of photographs, documents the practice of a genre of dancing based on the revival of Greek aesthetics and costume, as practiced by dancer Florence Fleming Noyes (1871–1928). In the early 1900s, Noyes established the Noyes School of Rhythm, where Valeria Ladd taught and performed.

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
Ladd, Valeria, 1892-1984--Photographs.
Noyes, Florence Fleming.

Organizations
Noyes School of Rhythm.

Subjects
Dance photography.
Dance schools--United States.
Dance--Greece.
Dancers--Photographs.
Modern dance.

Form/Genre
Photographic prints.

Provenance
Gift; Vicky Risner; 2009

Accruals
No further accruals are expected.
Processing History
The Valeria Ladd Collection on the Revived Greek Dance was processed and a finding aid created by Judy Estey in 2009. The finding aid was revised and coded for EAD format by Libby Smigel in 2016.

Other Repositories

Related Material
The Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress holds many images of revived Greek dancing of the early twentieth century, including photographs of Isadora Duncan and Florence Fleming Noyes.

Copyright Status
Materials from the Valeria Ladd Collection on the Revived Greek Dance 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 Valeria Ladd Collection on the Revived Greek Dance is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Music Division before visiting 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], Valeria Ladd Collection on the Revived Greek Dance, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note
Valeria Gibson Ladd (1892-1984) was a dancer with the Noyes School of Rhythm during the 1930s; she brought a group of dancers from the Noyes School to perform in Greece in 1932 and 1934. The Noyes School of Rhythm had been founded in the early 1900s by Florence Fleming Noyes. Noyes was a proponent of the natural dancing style of Isadora Duncan and other practitioners of what was often termed the "revived Greek dance." Noyes developed her own movement system toward regaining one's natural sense of rhythm. The technique Noyes created was based on a natural, fluid movement designed to emphasize rhythm through coordination and concentration. The school branch in Portland, Connecticut, continues to offer programs and camps.

Scope and Content Note
Most of the materials in this one-box collection document Noyes Rhythm dancers.

The materials are organized in two series: Photographs and Miscellany.

In the Photographs series, most images document Valeria Ladd, Catherine Rapp (1901-1992), or other members of the Noyes Dance Group and their trips to Greece in the 1930s. In addition to photographs of dancers posing or dancing in
natural settings or with ancient Greek ruins, there are photographs of museum pieces, landscapes, and the remains of Greek theatres and monuments.

The Miscellany series contains the first issue of The Denishawn Magazine and Ladd's certificate of her election to Who's Who.

Organization of the Valeria Ladd Collection on the Revived Greek Dance

The collection is organized in two series:

- Photographs, 1932-1960s
- Miscellany, 1924-1967
## Description of Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><strong>Photographs, 1932-1960s</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Most photographs are dancers, scenes, or museum items. Most of the photographs are undated. Some prints are marked as being later prints (circa 1960s) made from earlier originals or negatives. Several photographs are of subjects not directly related to Valeria Ladd or the Noyes School of Rhythm. Photographs taken on location in Greece are grouped by subject (people, places, art).</td>
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| BOX 1     | **Miscellany, 1924-1967** |
## Container List

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| BOX-FOLDER 1/1-3 | Dancers at Cape Sounion, 1932, undated  
Location at Temple of Poseidon.  
Dancers include Valeria Ladd and Catherine Rapp. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/4 | Dancers at Delphi, undated  
Location near Corycian Cave, Mount Parnassus.  
One dancer is identified as Catherine Rapp. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/5-6 | Dancers at Epidaurus [Epidavros], undated  
Locations near the ancient theatre at Epidaurus and in an olive grove.  
Two dancers are identified as "Jeannette" and "Laura" on verso. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/7-8 | Dancers at the island of Naxos, undated |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/9 | Dancers at unidentified locations in Greece, undated |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/10 | Kotopoulē, Marika, 1930s  
Two photographs of Greek actress Marika Kotopoulē: one in a group, one a portrait by Arnold Genthe (also held by Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress). |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/11 | Scenes in Greece, undated  
Delphi, Parthenon, Temple of Athena Alea in Tegea, others. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/12 | Sculptures in Greek museums, undated |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/13 | Dancer in studio poses, circa 1932  
Includes individual studio photos, as well as photographs of poster advertising "Valeria Ladd and Her Noyes Dancers" (Cotopouli Theatre, November 1932), which incorporates the studio poses into the advertisement. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/14 | Noyes dancers, undated  
Location unidentified. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/15 | Dancer in Greek garb, undated  
Mounted on board. |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/16 | Dancers in Greek garb, undated |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/17 | Theatrical portrait, undated  
Scene of "The Thief" by Henry Bernstein? |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/18 | Leap, undated  
Explanatory hand-written note on verso from Melissa Smith: photograph of a leap using long exposure taken under a single spotlight. |
| BOX 1 | **Miscellany, 1924-1967** |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/19 | Who's Who certificate, 1967 |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/20 | *The Denishawn Magazine*, 1924  
Volume 1, number 1. |