Collection Summary

Title: Julia Vincent Cross Papers,
Span Dates: 1854-1991
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1927-1955)
Call No.: ML31.C86
Creator: Cross, Julia Vincent
Extent: 325 items
Extent: 4 containers
Extent: 3 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2014572569

Summary: Julia Vincent Cross (1901-1986) was a dancer, choreographer, actor, and teacher. The Julia Vincent Cross Papers consists primarily of documentation of her career through photographs, correspondence with organizations and artist agents, performance programs and flyers, two publications, and three notebooks, one of which is a collection of detailed choreographic notes. Cross's family history is documented through a family scrapbook kept by her father, materials detailing the artistic activity of her husband Philip Evergood (1901-1972), personal photographs, and legal correspondence relating to the Cross and Evergood estates.

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
Cross, Julia Vincent--Correspondence.
Cross, Julia Vincent--Photographs.
Cross, Julia Vincent.
Cross, Julia Vincent.
Evergood, Philip, 1901-1973--Photographs.
Mordkin, Mikhail, 1881-1944.
Mordkin, Mikhail, 1881-1944.
Sunami, Soichi, 1885-1971.
Voss.
Volpe.
Voss, Grace.

Organizations
Mordkin Ballet Company.

Subjects
Ballet dancers--United States.
Choreographers--United States.
Choreography.
Dance notation.
Dance teachers--United States.
Dance--United States--20th century.
Dancers--Photographs.

Form/Genre
Articles.
Clippings (Information artifacts)
Correspondence.
Dance programs.
Photographic prints.
Programs (Documents)
Promotional materials.
Scrapbooks.

Provenance
Gift; Jacqueline Bland; 2016

Custodial History
Margaret (Margit) Swopes (b. 1928) was friend and caregiver to ballet dancer Julia Vincent Cross (married name, Julia V. Evergood) at the time of her death in Tucson, Arizona, in August 1986. Swopes was Cross's heir and executor of her will. Jacqueline Bland, a Tucson resident, acquired the Julia Vincent Cross Papers from the Swopes estate in 2014.

Accruals
No further accruals are expected.

Processing History
The Julia Vincent Cross Papers was processed by Libby Smigel in February 2017, and she coded the finding aid for EAD format in March 2017.

Other Repositories
Other repositories have several collections relating to Julia Vincent Cross and her husband, Philip Evergood. The Smithsonian's Archives of American Art has the Philip Evergood Papers, 1890-1971; Letters from Philip Evergood; Gael Hammer letters relating to Miles and Philip Evergood; an oral history interview with Philip Evergood by Forrest Selvig; and Philip Evergood interview with John I.H. Baur. The Photograph Archives of the American Art Museum has photographs of Evergood's artwork in the Peter A. & Son collection. Syracuse University has the Philip Evergood Papers, 1960-1967, and a collection assembled by Evergood's biographer, the Kendall Taylor Collection relating to Philip Evergood, 1900-1988 (the largest-known source of biographical information about Julia Vincent Cross and her husband).

Related Material
The Library of Congress Music Division has a number of collections (most notably the American Ballet Theatre Archive) that hold materials relating to the Mordkin Ballet and [American] Ballet Theatre, under which Julia Vincent Cross was trained and performed. There is a copyright deposit, available through the Library of Congress Manuscript Division, for a libretto for a two-act ballet titled Poet of the Stars by Morris Cohen (DU27911), which lists Julia Vincent Cross as choreographer for the ballet.

Copyright Status
Materials from the Julia Vincent Cross Papers are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.
**Access and Restrictions**

Materials in the Julia Vincent Cross Papers are 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], Julia Vincent Cross Papers, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Biographical Note**

**Julia Vincent Cross**, the name she used professionally as a performer, teacher, and writer, studied dance in Paris with Olga Preberegenska and Alexander Volinine, and in New York City with Mikhail Mordkin and Alexander Gavrilov. She had also studied painting and drawing in New York and at L'Académie de la Grande Chaumière in Paris. Her professional dance performances began in 1927: most of her engagements were with the Mordkin Ballet, and she also appeared with the St. Louis Opera Company (1927), the New York Outdoor Stadium (1929), and the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo (1933). Starting in 1938, she began to teach dance in her own studio as well as for organizations such as the Dance Notation Bureau. With her husband **Philip Evergood** (birth name, Philip Blashki), she supported social justice causes, appearing in benefit performances. Her husband, who also designed costumes and created libretti for some of Cross's choreography, received commissions from the WPA for murals and art projects from 1934 to 1937. She studied acting and appeared onstage in a number of plays in the 1940s and 1950s, such as the pre-Broadway production of *The Gypsies Wore High Hats* at Falmouth Playhouse in Massachusetts and an off-Broadway production of *Angel Street*. In the 1950s, she published a number of articles about dance teaching and the Mordkin ballet technique.

Julia Vincent Cross was born on July 31, 1901, in Sandwich, Massachusetts; her twin sister, Ann, was born the following day. In 1924, while studying painting and dance in Europe, she met artist Philip Evergood (1901-1973), and they married in 1931. In 1973, Evergood died in a house fire that also destroyed much of his artistic output. She died in Tucson, Arizona, in 1986.

**Scope and Content Note**

Materials in the Julia Vincent Cross Papers document portions of the personal and professional life of Julia Vincent Cross (married name used: Julia V. Evergood or Julia Vincent Evergood). This four-box collection is divided into two series: Career Papers and Family Papers.

The series **Career Papers** is divided into four subseries: Notebooks, Performance Photographs, Programs and Flyers, and Miscellany. The notebooks include a unique journal recording choreography attributed to major artists and to Cross, a set of correspondence to and from booking agents and colleagues, and an acting binder with monologues, scene studies, fashion and beauty tips, and eight poems written by Julia Vincent Cross. The dance photographs span about three decades, many of them studio poses in costume, but also some of Cross among a ballet ensemble or with her students. One photo documents her theatre work. Performance programs include benefit and recital playbills and flyers from her career but also souvenir programs of major companies. The career-related miscellaneous items include two published articles written by Julia Vincent Cross on Mordkin ballet technique, several clippings, the Who's Who entry on Cross, and a book of Genthe's dance photographs as well as a small amount of clippings.

The series **Family Papers** is divided into five subseries: Cross Family Scrapbook, Personal Photographs, Philip Evergood, Legal Correspondence, and Miscellany. Information on the background of the Cross family is furnished through the thirty-year scrapbook kept by Julia's father, Philip Cross (1848-1922), which shows his advancement in business and social circles in a number of North American cities. Personal photographs include studio portraits of Julia at various ages along with informal snapshots of her with her husband Philip Evergood, with friends, and with her caregiver Margit Swopes.
Snapshots show her home with Philip Evergood in Connecticut, and later her residence in Arizona. The Philip Evergood subseries includes the articles, exhibit catalogs, and other items documenting her husband's career as an artist she had retained at the time of her death. Legal correspondence includes letters and other documents primarily concerning the disposition of the estates of both Evergood and Cross. Miscellany includes a few personal items.

**Organization of the Julia Vincent Cross Papers**

The Collection is organized in two series:

- Career Papers, 1920s-1978
- Family Papers, 1854-1991
## Description of Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1, 3</td>
<td><strong>Career Papers, 1920s-1978</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Materials include three notebooks recording activities in her career, performance programs, photographs, published articles, and miscellany. The bound choreography notebook describes 29 dances of her mentors and her own choreography. The booking correspondence is predominantly letters and contact lists related to Cross's inquiries about performance opportunities or artist representation. The acting notebook begins with two hand-written journal entries about an acting engagement; thereafter, most of the pages are typed scene studies or monologues, beauty and fashion advice whose source is unknown, and a set of poems written by Julia Cross. Arranged by first by format and then by date.</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><strong>Performance Photographs, 1920s-1950s</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Studio photographs of Julia Vincent Cross in dance and theatre costumes, alone, in ensembles, and with students; a small number of photos of unidentified subjects. Organized by subject, then arranged by date when known.</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td><strong>Programs and Flyers, 1936-1974</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Performance and souvenir programs along with promotional flyers for Julia Vincent Cross performances. One flyer for a recital of Julia Cross's students is original artwork painted by her. Arranged by date.</td>
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<td>BOX 1, 3</td>
<td><strong>Miscellany, 1916-1978</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Materials related to Julia Vincent Cross's professional interest in dance. Arranged at item level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2-4</td>
<td><strong>Family Papers, 1854-1991</strong></td>
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<td>Materials collectively offer a glimpse into the family history and personal life of Julia Cross. A thirty-year scrapbook kept by Julia's father, Philip Cross (1848-1922), provides information on the background of the Cross family and his advancement in business in New York City. Photographs show her home with Philip Evergood (1901-1973) and later in Arizona; the scenes include exterior and interior domestic locations, as well as events. The couple are pictured with friends and pets, and later in life she is with her caregiver, Margit Swopes. Also included are assorted studio portraits of an adult Julia. In the subseries on her husband, Philip Evergood, a small number of articles, artwork, exhibit catalogs, clippings, and other evidence that she saved regarding her father-in-law's and husband's art careers are included. Legal correspondence documents the disposition of the estates of both Evergood and Cross. Materials in Miscellany are personal items and an inventory of the donated collection. Arranged by format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td><strong>Personal Photographs, 1930s-1978</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chiefly studio portraits and informal photographs of Julia Vincent Cross Evergood alone, with spouse Philip Evergood, with caregiver Margit Swopes, with pets, and with friends. Locations include her homes, at the Smithsonian exhibit of Evergood's work, and unidentified locales and occasions. Arranged by subject.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BOX 2  

**Philip Evergood, 1937-1983**  
A small number of clippings and articles, artwork samples, exhibit catalogs, and other evidence of the art careers of Julia's father-in-law, Miles Evergood, and husband, Philip Evergood, held by her at the time of her death. Note: she had previously donated most of Philip's papers to the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.  
Arranged by subject.

BOX 2  

**Legal Correspondence, 1981-1991**  
Letters and other papers relating to Philip Evergood's or Julia Cross's estate, or to other legal or contractual matters.  
Arranged by subject, and therein organized by date.

BOX 2  

**Miscellany, 1887-1975**  
Several personal items.  
Arranged by subject.
### Container List

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<td><strong>BOX 1, 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Notebooks, 1927-1955</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOX-FOLDER 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Choreography, 1927-1942</strong>&lt;br&gt;Detailed descriptions of 29 dances attributed to Alexandre Volinine, Isadora Duncan, Valetin Parnac, Mikhail Mordkin, and others as well as her own choreography. Some of the dances are indicated to have been learned or choreographed earlier than the date they were written down.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOX-FOLDER 1/1-2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Booking correspondence, 1945-1955</strong>&lt;br&gt;33 items&lt;br&gt;Largely responses from booking agents such as Arthur Todd, Chamberlain Brown, choreographer Fred Berk, Kermit Bloomgarden, Ruth Draper, and others. Also included are drafts or carbon copies of Julia's letters, lists of programs or repertory, and contact lists. Annotations in shorthand and carbon copies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOX-FOLDER 1/3-4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Acting notebook, 1952, undated</strong>&lt;br&gt;40 sheets&lt;br&gt;First page begins like a journal with two dated entries about performing in <em>The Gypsies Wore High Hats</em> at the Falmouth Theatre in Massachusetts. Subsequent pages include soliloquies and scenes from plays, beauty and wardrobe advice, and poetry, including poems written by Julia Cross. Annotations in shorthand and longhand&lt;br&gt;A set of reference copies is included</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>BOX 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Performance Photographs, 1920s-1950s</strong>&lt;br&gt;Studio photographs of Julia Vincent Cross in dance and theatre costumes, alone, in ensembles, and with students; a small number of photos of unidentified subjects. Organized by subject, then arranged by date when known.</td>
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<td><strong>BOX-FOLDER 1/5-10</strong></td>
<td><strong>JVC alone, 1933, undated</strong>&lt;br&gt;29 black-and-white photographs&lt;br&gt;Various poses for each of six costumes&lt;br&gt;One photograph is identified as costume for a benefit performance in 1933&lt;br&gt;Some prints are proofs with marks for final printing&lt;br&gt;Soichi Sunami, photographer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Programs and Flyers, 1936-1974

Performance and souvenir programs along with promotional flyers for Julia Vincent Cross performances. One flyer for a recital of Julia Cross's students is original artwork painted by her.

Arranged by date.

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| BOX-FOLDER 1/18 | Flood and Tornado Relief Benefit, 1936  
JVC listed in ensemble performing a Russian trepak |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/19 | Russian Easter Ball, 1940  
JVC listed in trio  
Inscribed by Erik [Gregor?] and Robbie |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/20-22 | Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, 1942-1947  
3 souvenir programs |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/23 | Mia Slavenska/David Tihmar and Company, 1944?  
1 souvenir program |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/24 | Original Ballet Russe, 1946?  
2 flyers |
1 souvenir program |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/27 | JVC flyer, 1959-1960?  
Promotional flyer for monologues and dances, under artist representative Elizabeth Dugger |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/26 | JVC and her students, undated  
Promotional oil painting artwork for student recital |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/28 | Bolshoi Ballet, 1974  
1 souvenir program |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/29 | Folies de Paris, 1974?  
1 souvenir program |

### Miscellany, 1916-1978

Materials related to Julia Vincent Cross's professional interest in dance.
Julia Vincent Cross Papers, 1920s-1978

Container          Contents

Arranged at item level.

BOX-FOLDER 1/30-31 Writings, 1956-1957
2 magazine articles
Articles published in Dance Magazine on Mordkin Ballet and dance teaching, written by Julia Vincent Cross

BOX 3 Arnold Genthe, Book of the Dance, 1916

BOX-FOLDER 1/33 Who's Who entry, 1961-1962
Photocopy of entry on JVC

BOX-FOLDER 1/34 Unidentified clippings, undated
2 photographs published in newspapers
Subjects: JVC; unidentified dance figures

BOX-FOLDER 1/35 Photocopies of book title leaf and verso

BOX 2-4 Family Papers, 1854-1991
Materials collectively offer a glimpse into the family history and personal life of Julia Cross. A thirty-year scrapbook kept by Julia's father, Philip Cross (1848-1922), provides information on the background of the Cross family and his advancement in business in New York City. Photographs show her home with Philip Evergood (1901-1973) and later in Arizona; the scenes include exterior and interior domestic locations, as well as events. The couple are pictured with friends and pets, and later in life she is with her caregiver, Margit Swopes. Also included are assorted studio portraits of an adult Julia. In the subseries on her husband, Philip Evergood, a small number of articles, artwork, exhibit catalogs, clippings, and other evidence that she saved regarding her father-in-law's and husband's art careers are included. Legal correspondence documents the disposition of the estates of both Evergood and Cross. Materials in Miscellany are personal items and an inventory of the donated collection.
Arranged by format.

BOX 4 Cross Family Scrapbook, 1854-1888
Compiled by British-born Philip Cross (1848-1922), Julia's father, the scrapbook chronicles early records of his father Osborn P. Cross (b. 1809) in England as well as Philip Cross's professional and social life in Canada and the United States. Materials include newspaper clippings, evidence of a range of business ventures, invoices and receipts, letters of introduction and business cards, theatre programs, and social invitations.

BOX 2 Personal Photographs, 1930s-1978
Chiefly studio portraits and informal photographs of Julia Vincent Cross Evergood alone, with spouse Philip Evergood, with caregiver Margit Swopes, with pets, and with friends. Locations include her homes, at the Smithsonian exhibit of Evergood's work, and unidentified locales and occasions.
Arranged by subject.

BOX-FOLDER 2/1-3 Studio portraits, 1930s-1950s, undated
10 black-and-white photographs

BOX-FOLDER 2/4-5 CANDIDS at home, 1950s-1963
14 black-and-white and color snapshots
Annotations supply identification of subjects: Philip's house and guest house, which Philip made into his studio
Julia, Philip Evergood, unidentified friends

**BOX-FOLDER 2/6**
**Events, 1950s-1960s?**
- 2 black-and-white photographs
- Julia Cross with husband Philip Evergood at events: possibly funeral or church

**BOX-FOLDER 2/7**
**Mexico, 1962,**
- 1 black-and-white photograph
  Annotation: Wally and Barbara arriving to attend their reception at the Villa Monte Carlo, Chapala, Jalisco, Mexico July 23, 1962

**BOX-FOLDER 2/8**
**At home, 1976, undated**
- 8 black-and-white and color snapshots
  Julia alone, with visitors, with caregiver Margit Swopes

**BOX-FOLDER 2/9**
**Smithsonian Institution, 1978**
- 3 photographs
  Julia with caregiver and reception guests at opening of Evergood exhibit

**BOX 2**
**Philip Evergood, 1937-1983**
A small number of clippings and articles, artwork samples, exhibit catalogs, and other evidence of the art careers of Julia's father-in-law, Miles Evergood, and husband, Philip Evergood, held by her at the time of her death. Note: she had previously donated most of Philip's papers to the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

Arranged by subject.

**BOX-FOLDER 2/10-14**
**Artwork samples, 1965, undated**

**BOX-FOLDER 2/10**
**Girl with Sunflowers, 1965**
- Signed etching
  Annotation: artists proof, 2nd state

**BOX-FOLDER 2/11**
**JuJu Dancing, 1931**
- Photograph of Evergood oil painting
  Photography by Peter A. Juley & Son

**BOX-FOLDER 2/12**
**Prodigal Son, 1965**
- 18/39
  Portrait of Letterio Calapai

**BOX-FOLDER 2/13**
**Unidentified etching, undated**
- Perhaps from Classical Motif series

**BOX-FOLDER 2/14**
**Unidentified portrait, undated**
- Photograph of oil painting

**BOX-FOLDER 2/15-19**
- Exhibit and auction catalogs, some illustrated

**BOX-FOLDER 2/20-23**
**Clippings and articles, 1937-1940, 1973-1982, undated**
- 8 items
  Includes features on Kalamazoo mural, photocopy of 1937 Melbourne article on Miles and Philip Evergood exhibit (with 1982 cover letter of transmittal), scholarly article by Kendall Taylor, and Philip Evergood obituary

**BOX 2**
**Legal Correspondence, 1981-1991**
Letters and other papers relating to Philip Evergood's or Julia Cross's estate, or to other legal or contractual matters.

Arranged by subject, and therein organized by date.
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| BOX-FOLDER 2/24 | Death certificate and wills, 1981-1987  
|             | Also includes affidavit settling estate |
|             | Letters relating to the sale of artwork in Philip Evergood's or Julia Cross's estate. |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/30-31 | Estate correspondence, 1986-1987  
|             | Primarily letters to Cross estate executor, Margit Swopes |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/32 | Estate accounts, 1986-1987  
|             | Law firm invoices and other accounts |
| BOX 2 | **Miscellany, 1887-1975**  
|       | Several personal items.  
|       | Arranged by subject. |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/33 | Artwork, 1975  
|             | Ink sketch  
|             | Still life signed Julia Vincent Cross |
| BOX 3 | Gift book, [1945]  
|       | Cover and front papers of Russian Fairy Tales book (translation, Norbert Guterman; commentary, Roman Jakobson)  
|       | Inscribed in French to Julia Evergood by Alosha, a Ballet Russe dancer (known also by the names Alexei, Aloysius Francis, or Aloysius), dated January 10, 1946 |
| BOX 2/34 | Gift book, 1887  
|       | Printed copy of Longfellow poem *Maidenhood* (1887 edition) with illustrations by J. Stanley  
|       | Inscribed to Ju-ju (Julia's nickname) on February 14, 1966 |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/35 | Notecard, undated  
|             | From Philip Evergood to Julia |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/36 | Inventory  
|             | Lists and descriptions provided by collection donor |