

Julia Vincent Cross Papers

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



**Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2017**

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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.

Evergood, Philip, 1901-1973.

Evergood, Philip, 1901-1973.

Mordkin, Mikhail, 1881-1944.

Mordkin, Mikhail, 1881-1944.

Sunami, Soichi, 1885-1971.

Volinin, Aleksandr Emel'ianovich, 1882-1955.

Volinin, Aleksandr Emel'ianovich, 1882-1955.

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 Prebreojenska and Alexander Volinine, and in New York City with Mikhail Mordkin and Alexander Gavrillov. 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

Container	Series
BOX 1, 3	<p><u>Career Papers, 1920s-1978</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Arranged by first by format and then by date.</p>
BOX 1	<p><u>Performance Photographs, 1920s-1950s</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Organized by subject, then arranged by date when known.</p>
BOX 1	<p><u>Programs and Flyers, 1936-1974</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Arranged by date.</p>
BOX 1, 3	<p><u>Miscellany, 1916-1978</u></p> <p>Materials related to Julia Vincent Cross's professional interest in dance.</p> <p>Arranged at item level.</p>
BOX 2-4	<p><u>Family Papers, 1854-1991</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Arranged by format.</p>
BOX 2	<p><u>Personal Photographs, 1930s-1978</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Arranged by subject.</p>

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

Container	Contents
BOX 1, 3	<p>Career Papers, 1920s-1978</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Arranged by first by format and then by date.</p>
BOX 1, 3	<p>Notebooks, 1927-1955</p>
BOX-FOLDER 3	<p>Choreography, 1927-1942</p> <p>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.</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/1-2	<p>Booking correspondence, 1945-1955</p> <p>33 items</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Annotations in shorthand and longhand</p> <p>Second folder is a set of reference copies</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/3-4	<p>Acting notebook, 1952, undated</p> <p>40 sheets</p> <p>First page begins like a journal with two dated entries about performing in <i>The Gypsies Wore High Hats</i> 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.</p> <p>Annotations in shorthand and longhand</p> <p>A set of reference copies is included</p>
BOX 1	<p>Performance Photographs, 1920s-1950s</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Organized by subject, then arranged by date when known.</p>
BOX-FOLDER 1/5-10	<p>JVC alone, 1933, undated</p> <p>29 black-and-white photographs</p> <p>Various poses for each of six costumes</p> <p>One photograph is identified as costume for a benefit performance in 1933</p> <p>Some prints are proofs with marks for final printing</p> <p>Soichi Sunami, photographer</p>

Career Papers, 1920s-1978

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 1/11	JVC with castanets, 1940s? 2 black-and-white photographs
BOX-FOLDER 1/12	JVC alone, undated 4 black-and-white photographs Various settings and costumes: outdoors, studio poses, theatre costume
BOX-FOLDER 1/13	JVC with ballet ensemble, 1930s 2 black-and-white photographs Grace Voss (1905-2009), photographer
BOX-FOLDER 1/14	JVC with ballet ensemble, 1930s? 2 black-and-white photographs Achille Volpé (1905-2009), photographer
BOX-FOLDER 1/15	JVC with students, 1940s-1950s? 2 black-and-white photographs
BOX-FOLDER 1/16	JVC with cast of <i>Angel Street</i> , undated 1 black-and-white photograph
BOX-FOLDER 1/17	Unidentified dancers, 1930s? 2 black-and-white photographs
BOX 1	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.
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
BOX-FOLDER 1/25	[American] Ballet Theatre, 1946-1947 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
BOX 1, 3	Miscellany, 1916-1978 Materials related to Julia Vincent Cross's professional interest in dance.

Career Papers, 1920s-1978

Container	Contents
	Arranged at item level.
BOX-FOLDER 1/30-31	Writings, 1956-1957 2 magazine articles Articles published in <i>Dance Magazine</i> on Mordkin Ballet and dance teaching, written by Julia Vincent Cross
BOX 3	Arnold Genthe, <i>Book of the Dance</i> , 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 Bibliographic information for three books included in the collection: Arnold Genthe, <i>Book of the Dance</i> , 1916; <i>Who's Who of American Women</i> , 1961-1962; Valery Panov, <i>To Dance</i> , 1978, a gift to Margit Swopes from her husband
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	Candid at home, 1950s-1963 14 black-and-white and color snapshots

Family Papers, 1854-1991

Container	Contents
	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	Catalogs, 1937, 1960, 1971, 1978-1983 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.

Family Papers, 1854-1991

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER 2/24	Death certificate and wills, 1981-1987 Also includes affidavit settling estate
BOX-FOLDER 2/25-29	Art correspondence, 1983-1991 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 <i>Maidenhood</i> (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