Grace McCrea Papers Relating to Denishawn

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

Music Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2018

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

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/2013572143

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.music/eadmus.mu018009

Processed by the Music Division of the Library of Congress
Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Music Division, 2018
Collection Summary

Title: Grace McCrea Papers Relating to Denishawn
Span Dates: 1913-1969
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1916-1929)
Call No.: ML31.D46
Extent: 249 items
Extent: 6 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/2013572143

Summary: Grace McCrea (b. 1899) was a member of the Denishawn dance company led by modern dance pioneers Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn. Along with her older sister, Betty McCrea, she performed across the United States in Denishawn's vaudeville and concert tours from 1916-1919. The photographs, performance programs, and printed materials in this collection document the professional activities of Denishawn artistic leadership and company members from about 1913 to the late 1960s. The collection principally includes programs and photographs highlighting the career of dancer Grace McCrea and her sister Betty. Certain company members and artistic collaborators of the Denishawn company are also represented, such as Louis Horst, Betty Horst, Ada Forman, and Anne Douglas. The collection also includes magazine and newspaper clippings, publicity materials, and publications. Pages from two small notebooks document portions of the company's Asia tour and one piece of Denishawn choreography.

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
Horst, Louis.
McCrea, Betty, 1897-
McCrea, Grace, collector.
McCrea, Grace--Photographs.
McCrea, Grace.
St. Denis, Ruth, 1880-1968--Photographs.
St. Denis, Ruth, 1880-1968.

Organizations
Denishawn Dancers.
Denishawn School of Dancing.
Denishawn School of Dancing. Grace McCrea papers relating to Denishawn. 1913-1969.

Subjects
Dance companies--United States.
Dance--United States.
Dancers--1910-1920.
Dancers--1920-1930.
Dancers--Photographs.
Dancers--United States.
Modern dance--United States--History.
Modern dance.
Performing arts--United States.
Form/Genre
Articles.
Clippings (Information artifacts)
Dance programs.
Photographic prints.
Programs (Documents)
Promotional materials.

Provenance
Purchase; Sotheby's, New York; 1998

Accruals
No further accruals are expected.

Processing History
The Grace McCrea Papers Relating to Denishawn was organized by Judy Estey in 2009. In 2018, Libby Smigel refined and completed the processing, and coded the finding aid for EAD format.

Related Material
Many Library of Congress divisions have special collections that include materials related to Ted Shawn, Ruth St. Denis, or the Denishawn company. Photographs of and correspondence with Ruth St. Denis and related material can be found in the Music Division's Oliver Daniel Papers, The Martha Graham Collection, which has a small amount of photographs and materials on both Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn, also includes music scores used for their choreography. The Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation Collection and the Serge Koussevitzky Archive both include correspondence with Ted Shawn.

Copyright Status
Materials from the Grace McCrea Papers Relating to Denishawn 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 Grace McCrea Papers Relating to Denishawn 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], Grace McCrea Papers Relating to Denishawn, Music Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Biographical Note

Grace McCrea and her sister, Betty McCrea, performed as members of the Denishawn company during its inceptive years, dancing under the leadership of modern dance pioneers Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn. Both performed across the United States in Denishawn's vaudeville and concert tours from 1916-1919, and Betty accompanied the company on a South American tour around 1919. Notable appearances included roles in Denishawn repertory such as the Dance Pageant of Egypt, Greece and India and Julnar of the Sea. The sisters also performed in dance events sponsored by other artists and arts entrepreneurs.

Few details of Grace McCrea's personal life have survived. In November 1899, she was born in Pittsburgh to Robert A. and Martha E. McCrea. She had two older sisters, Esther Elizabeth (“Betty,” born June 26, 1897) and Sylvia. Her mother, born in Switzerland, had immigrated to the United States in 1881. By the time of the 1910 U.S. census, her father had died, and her mother provided for the household by working as a hairdresser and taking in boarders. Martha McCrea relocated to New York City with her daughters and married Harry Weaver in 1916. Few other family records have been discovered.

The Denishawn School and Dance Company was established and directed by dancers Ruth St. Denis (1979-1968) and Ted Shawn (1891-1972). Initially a school founded in 1915 in Los Angeles, it spread to New York in the 1920s where it ultimately disbanded in 1931. Throughout this time, the company toured across the United States as well as internationally in Asia, South America, and England. The company included several dancers and associates who were later to become well-known artists: for example, Louise Brooks, Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey, and Charles Weidman. Composer, conductor, and musician Louis Horst also contributed. The wide range of the Denishawn repertory reflected the varied dance styles and aesthetics of its two leaders. St. Denis created Oriental-theme works such as Spirit of the Sea, Radha, and Incense; Shawn also created dances under this umbrella, but also experimented with vaudeville entertainments celebrating Spanish-influenced dance styles or sometimes employed Christian themes. (The two also collaborated on several works such as The Garden of Kama.) Initially formed as a vaudeville touring company, St. Denis and Shawn attempted to move it toward concert dance venues. However, the company was always plagued by lack of funds. Beyond its national tours, Denishawn spent fifteen months touring in East Asia from 1925 to 1926, where the company continued to produce Orient-inspired dances. On return to New York, Denishawn lost several key dancers by 1928 and the marital separation of its founders also jeopardized the company's survival. In 1931 the company was disbanded, with both St. Denis and Shawn going their separate ways and initiating new careers for themselves.

Scope and Content Note

The Grace McCrea Papers Relating to Denishawn contains materials largely documenting performing arts activities of members of the Denishawn company and its founders, Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn. Programs, photographs, promotional materials, clippings, and related performance ephemera document the period from about 1913 to the late 1960s. The strength of the collection is in the years from 1916 through the 1920s, the period when sisters Grace and Betty McCrea were artists within the company and in performances spearheaded by other artists or groups.

In addition to photos highlighting the careers of the McCreases, Shawn, St. Denis, other company dancers, and composer-conductor Louis Horst, the collection includes images of vaudevillians and specialty act performers such as Evan-Burrows Fontaine, the Manilla Brothers, and Leon and Frank Weaver (who performed as Abner and Cicero). Programs of Denishawn are plentiful, and a small number of other performances, such as the Royal Ballet of Cambodia, also are represented.

Highlights of the collection include clippings about Ruth St. Denis from popular magazines such as Harper's Bazaar, Vogue and Vanity Fair from about 1915 to the early 1920s. Four issues of the Denishawn Magazine are also a part of the Printed Materials series. Additionally the papers contain publicity materials for assorted performances and other projects, including pamphlets advertising and documenting the respective artists and their Denishawn school. The Printed Materials series includes two books: the limited edition two-volume art book titled Ruth St. Denis: Pioneer & Prophet.

Organization of the Grace McCrea Papers Relating to Denishawn

The Collection is organized in four series:
• Photographs, 1913-1951
• Programs, 1916-1969
• Printed Matter, 1915-1969
• Notebooks, 1926
## Description of Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1-2, 4</td>
<td><strong>Photographs, 1913-1951</strong></td>
<td>The Photographs series includes many photographs of Denishawn dancers, Betty McCrea, Betty Horst (wife of Louis Horst), Anne Douglas, Irene Pryor, Betty Ross, and particularly Grace McCrea. Many of the photographs feature dancers in costume, but most of the performance works are not identified. Photographs of Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shaw show them in costume as well as informally. Martha Graham appears in the background with McCrea in two photographs for <em>Pettigrew's Girl</em>. Many of the photographs are inscribed, including notes from St. Denis and Shaw. Arranged in two subseries: People and Performance Works. Within the subseries, subjects are arranged alphabetically. Unidentified subjects are placed at the end of each subseries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2, 4, 6</td>
<td><strong>Programs, 1916-1969</strong></td>
<td>The performance programs and playbills comprising this series are predominantly those of Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, or Denishawn. Many of the Denishawn-related programs provide descriptive information about the dance works. Additional artists of note that appear in this set of programs include Louis Horst, Betty Horst, Louise Brooks, Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey, and Charles Weidman. One program documents an engagement of Betty McCrea in the dance company of Evan-Burrows Fontaine, as part of a larger performance event. Several programs document performances at Jacob's Pillow, established by Ted Shawn. Several performance programs with no apparent connection to Denishawn were acquired by Grace or Betty McCrea. Arranged in two series: Denishawn-Related Programs and Other Performances. Both series are organized chronologically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3-6</td>
<td><strong>Printed Matter, 1915-1969</strong></td>
<td>This series encompasses books and pamphlets, clippings and articles, and promotional materials related to Denishawn performances and classes. A small number of postcards printed with photos also are found here. Most of these items feature Denishawn artists or mention Denishawn dancers by name, and Ruth St. Denis figures most prominently among these. Clippings and articles that have no discernible date are organized by magazine title, and where there is no identification, these are in folders marked as unidentified. Of note are the four-issue set of Volume 1 of <em>Denishawn Magazine</em>, a quarterly publication with essays by St. Denis and Shaw that ceased publication at the end of its first year, and a copy of Ted Shaw's two-volume, limited-edition art book on Ruth St. Denis. Arranged in four subseries: Books and Pamphlets; Clippings and Articles; Promotional Matter; and Postcards. Items are arranged by date, with the exception of clippings, where the publications are arranged alphabetically by title and therein arranged by date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td><strong>Notebooks, 1926 and undated</strong></td>
<td>Two sets of hand-written notes: one, recording performances and other events during Denishawn Asia tour; the other, choreographic notes for dance titled <em>Chrysanthemum</em>. Arranged by subject.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## Container List

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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| BOX 1-2, 4 | **Photographs, 1913-1951**  
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Arranged in two subseries: People and Performance Works. Within the subseries, subjects are arranged alphabetically. Unidentified subjects are placed at the end of each subseries. |
| BOX 1-2, 4 | **People, 1915-1951** |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/1 | Austin, Anna, 1916  
1 photograph  
Photographer: Bert's K.C., the studio of Burdette Emery Wetherwax in Kansas City, Missouri  
| BOX-FOLDER 1/2 | Biracree, Thelma, 1923  
1 photograph  
Inscribed: To: "Betty" Just loads of good luck to you my dear "Poppy Partner" "Thelma" 1923 |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/3 | Biracree, Thelma, with Grace McCrea and Betty Ross, circa 1924-1925  
1 photograph  
On verso: identification of subjects and location (Toronto)  
Posed as the Three Graces |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/4 | Brendel, Charlotte, with Grace McCrea and Irene Pryor, 1919  
1 photograph  
Photographer: Witzel Studio, Los Angeles  
Inscribed by Grace McCrea to her parents  
On verso: The "Pas de Trois" danced by Charlotte Brendell [Brendel], Irene Prior [Pryor], and Grace McCrea |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/1 | Carmody Dancers, undated  
2 photographs  
Photographer: Nasib, New York  
Stamp on verso: Carmody Dancers  
4 dancers costumed for unidentified dances  
Marjorie Carmody's troupe |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/5 | Dickinson, Doris, undated  
1 photograph  
Photographer: Nasib, New York  
Inscribed: My love to Betty one of us Doris Dickinson |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/6 | Dickinson, Margaret, undated  
1 portrait  
Photographer: Smith Studio, Tacoma, Washington |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| BOX-FOLDER 1/7 | Fontaine, Evan-Burrows, undated  
2 photographs  
Photographer: Underwood & Underwood Studios  
Oriental-like costumes for unidentified performance  
Inscribed by Evan-Burrows Fontaine to Mrs. McCrea |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/8 | Forbes, Earle, undated  
1 studio portrait  
Photographer unknown  
Inscribed: To Gracie Memories come back always Earle  
Forbes performed with Denishawn in the early years |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/9 | Forman, Ada, 1916  
1 photograph  
Photographer: White Studios, New York  
Inscribed: For Betty Mac May all good things come to her Ada Forman 1916 |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/10 | Horst, Betty, 1916  
1 studio portrait  
Photographer: Floyd Studio, New York  
Inscribed: To Betty McCrea Sincerely Betty Horst. May 18 - 1916 |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/11 | Horst, Louis, 1916  
1 studio portrait  
Photographer: Floyd Studio, New York  
Inscribed: To Betty McCrea Sincerely Louis Horst 1916 |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/12 | Joe Fanton & Co., undated  
3 photographs  
Photographer: Strand |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/13 | Kerwin, [first name illegible], 1926  
1 studio portrait  
Photographer: National, New York  
Inscribed: To Betty - with - well - you know! [illegible] Kerwin 1926 |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/14 | La Rue, Grace, 1917  
1 studio portrait  
Photographer: Apeda Studio, New York  
Inscribed: To my dear friend, Betty. With best wishes and love, Grace La Rue '17 |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/15 | Manilla Brothers, undated  
2 photographs  
Photographer: Scott, Philadelphia |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/16 | McCrea, Betty, 1916  
5 photographs  
One photo inscribed: To One who has given me so much help. My Dear Mother. Lovingly Betty 1916  
Costumed for unknown work |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/17, 4/2 | McCrea, Grace, 1919  
2 studio portraits  
Photographer: unknown  
Inscribed to McCrea's parents |
| BOX-FOLDER 1/18 | McCrea, Grace, [1921-1922]  
2 publicity photographs  
Photographer: Ira D. Schwarz |
On verso: Grace McCrea in Fokine ballet, *Get Together* at Hippodrome

**BOX-FOLDER 1/19-20**
McCrea, Grace, 1924
- 2 headshots; 2 studio portraits
- Photographer: Smith Studio, Tacoma
- Costumed for unidentified work

**BOX-FOLDER 1/21-22**
McCrea, Grace, circa 1927
- 3 photographs
- Photographer: James Hargis Connolly, Chicago
- One print is inscribed to McCrea's parents

**BOX-FOLDER 1/23**
McCrea, Grace, 1920s?
- 1 photograph
- Photographer: John W. Siefert, Los Angeles
- Inscribed to McCrea's mother

**BOX-FOLDER 1/24**
McCrea, Grace, undated
- 2 photographs
- Photographer: Nasib

**BOX-FOLDER 1/25**
McCrea, Grace, undated
- 1 photograph
- Costumed in practice leotard

**BOX-FOLDER 1/26**
McCrea, Grace [], undated
- 1 photograph

**BOX-FOLDER 1/27**
O'Hara, Tim, circa 1926
- 1 photograph
- Inscribed: To Joe Manillo: - The only "Bass Singer" ever known to sing "My Wild Irish Rose" And Still Live! With my undying gratitude for having made Bearable this summer of 1926 Coast trip. Most Sincerely Yours Tim O'Hara.

**BOX-FOLDER 1/28**
Pemberton, Stafford, undated
- 2 photos
- One inscribed to "Betty" McCrea, the other to her mother, Mrs. Weaver

**BOX-FOLDER 1/29**
Renault, Francis, 1921
- 1 photograph
- Photographer: DeHaven Studio, Chicago
- Inscribed: For Betty Ross, your friend Francis Renault 1921

**BOX-FOLDER 1/30**
Ross, Betty, circa 1922-1923
- 1 photograph
- Headshot is cut out of photo

**BOX-FOLDER 1/31**
Ross, Betty, 1924
- 1 photograph
- Photographer: Smith, Tacoma
- Inscribed
- On verso: Betty Ross Carmody Dancers - 1924-1925
- Costumed for unidentified dance

**BOX-FOLDER 1/32**
Ross, Betty, 1924?
- 1 studio portrait
- Photographer: Ira D. Schwarz, New York
- Inscribed: To Joie May Your Hopes come true, Bringing Happiness that will be lasting Lovingly Betty [date illegible]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 4/3</td>
<td>Ross, Betty, circa 1924-1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: To Mother Dearest. To you who is so unselfish in Helping me along the road [illegible]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On verso: Betty Ross Marjorie Carmody Dancers 1924, 1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/33</td>
<td>Ross, Betty, circa 1924-1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>see also</em> Biracree, Thelma, with Grace McCrea and Betty Ross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: unknown</td>
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<td></td>
<td>On verso: location identified as Canada</td>
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<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/34, 4/4</td>
<td>Ross, Betty, 1926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On verso: dancer is identified as Betty Ross, Fountainia Company, Miami Shores, Florida 1926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two figures in one photo are unidentified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/35</td>
<td>Seven Belle Tones, 1920s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 portrait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Colorgraph, Peoria, Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: To Our Friend Joe. With all good Wishes Sincerely Flo. Ed + Jeanne also Etta. Stamped on verso: Pantages Road Show No. 150; Seven Belle Tones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/36</td>
<td>Shawn, Ted, [circa 1917?]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Moffett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: For Betty McCrea With thoughts of success Ted Shawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Costumed as antiquity figure for unidentified dance work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/37</td>
<td>Shawn, Ted, 1939?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: John Lindquist?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: To Gracie with love from &quot;Papa&quot; Denishawn Ted Shawn NYC Nov 13-1949 Photograph may date as early as 1939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/38</td>
<td>Shawn, Ted, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 headshot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/39</td>
<td>Shawn, Ted, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 studio portrait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/40</td>
<td>Shawn, Ted, and Ruth St. Denis, circa 1915-1916?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: International Film Service, San Francisco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Possibly from the Greek Pageant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/41</td>
<td>Shawn, Ted, and Ruth St. Denis, 1951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 black-and-white snapshot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Location: Jacob's Pillow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: To Gracie Papa Ted Miss Ruth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 4/5</td>
<td>Shawn, Ted, and Ruth St. Denis, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Nickolas Muray, New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Autographed</td>
</tr>
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<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/42</td>
<td>Sylvester, Joe, and Joe Troster, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/43</td>
<td>Troster-Manillo, Beth, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On verso: Beth E. Troster-Manillo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group of 5 people, possibly wedding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 4/6</td>
<td>Walsh, Maria, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Apeda Studio, New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: To Dear old Betty [illegible]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/44</td>
<td>Weaver, Frank, and Leon Weaver, 1924?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 studio portraits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Ferguson, Springfield, Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two individual headshots (inscribed to Joe), one of duo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 1/45</td>
<td>Weaver, June, 1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 studio portrait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Standiford Studio, Louisville [Ethel Standiford?]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To Joe “My Pal” from June Weaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/1</td>
<td>Unidentified men, 1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: To Betty Just to Remember the good old days spent in Chicago Ill Johnny 1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/2-7</td>
<td>Unidentified women, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 photographs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Two are inscribed</td>
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<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/8</td>
<td>Unidentified couple, undated</td>
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<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Performance Works, 1913-1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/9</td>
<td>The Cobras [danced by Ruth St. Denis], 1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Performer: Ruth St. Denis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed to Grace McCrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/10</td>
<td>Egyptian dance from <em>Pageant</em>, 1918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Putnam &amp; Valentine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stage picture</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/11-12</td>
<td>Egyptian dance [vaudeville version], 1918</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Hixon-Connolly Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One photo inscribed by Grace McCrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group of dancers includes: Lillian Powell, Charlotte Brendel, Grace McCrea, Irene Pryor, Claire Niles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/13</td>
<td>Fountania, 1926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On verso: Betty Ross Fountania 1926 Miami Shores, Florida -</td>
</tr>
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<td>Container</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/14</td>
<td>Julnar of the Sea, 1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Putnam Studios, Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed and dancers identified by Grace McCrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full stage from scene 1 and Chines</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/15</td>
<td>Julnar of the Sea, 1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: unknown</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed and dancers identified by Grace McCrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grace McCrea as Chinese Princess</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/16</td>
<td>Julnar of the Sea, 1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Texas Art Studio, Ranger, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: For my precious Mother and Daddy - , Miss &quot;Poo [unintelligible]: is about to sing a wee love song of her &quot;home coming&quot; to you. - Love - Gracie. 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/17</td>
<td>Kuan Yin solo, 1920s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Nickolas Muray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Performer: Ruth St. Denis</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/18</td>
<td>Omika, 1913?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Ira L. Hill, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Performer: Ruth St. Denis in Dance of Flower Arrangement solo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed: To Betty McCrea with affection from Ruth St. Denis May 1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photo may date earlier than inscription</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/19</td>
<td>Pettigrew's Girl, 1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/20</td>
<td>Pettigrew's Girl rehearsal, 1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On verso: identifications of several chorus girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/21</td>
<td>Vision of Aissoua, 1919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer: Witzel Studio, Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inscribed by Grace McCrea to her parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On verso: The &quot;Ouled Nail&quot; - danced by - Irene Prior [Pryor], Charlotte Brendell [Brendel], Aida Caproni, and Grace McCrea. &quot;Denishawn Dancers&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/22</td>
<td>White Jade solo dance, 1926? and 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographs: unknown, 1926; Forbes, 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Performer: Ruth St. Denis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Each inscribed to Grace McCrea by Ruth St. Denis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/23</td>
<td>Unidentified performance, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Possibly Fountania; costumed in Spanish-influenced attire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 2/24</td>
<td>Unidentified performers and works, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 photographs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Includes stunt and eccentric acts

**Programs, 1916-1969**

The performance programs and playbills comprising this series are predominantly those of Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, or Denishawn. Many of the Denishawn-related programs provide descriptive information about the dance works. Additional artists of note that appear in this set of programs include Louis Horst, Betty Horst, Louise Brooks, Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey, and Charles Weidman. One program documents an engagement of Betty McCrea in the dance company of Evan-Burrows Fontaine, as part of a larger performance event. Several programs document performances at Jacob's Pillow, established by Ted Shawn. Several performance programs with no apparent connection to Denishawn were acquired by Grace or Betty McCrea.

Arranged in two series: Denishawn-Related Programs and Other Performances. Both series are organized chronologically.

**Denishawn-Related Programs, 1916-1969**

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/25**
  Bowerstock Theatre, Kansas, 1916
  1 program

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/26**
  California [various cities], 1916
  6 p.
  Individual pages from Los Angeles, Oakland, and San Francisco programs

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/27**
  Majestic Theatre, Chicago, 1916
  1 p.

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/28**
  Sedalia Theatre, Missouri, 1916
  1 program

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/29**
  Shubert Theatre, Kansas City, Missouri, 1916
  1 program

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/30**
  Denishawn Dance Theatre, Los Angeles, 1917
  1 program
  Featuring Florence Andrews, who later performed under the name Florence O'Denishawn, and Edith Emmons Kuster

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/31**
  Ted Shawn season, 1921-1922
  1 brochure
  Ted Shawn and Denishawn Dancers

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/32**
  Apollo Theatre, Atlantic City, [1921]
  1 program
  Ted Shaw and Denishawn Dancers

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/33**
  Manhattan Opera House, 1922?
  1 program
  Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn and the Denishawn Dancers

- **BOX-FOLDER 4/7**
  Denishawn souvenir program, 1926
  1 program
  Illustrated with scenes from Asia tour

- **BOX-FOLDER 6/1**
  British Cinema, Secunderabad, India, circa 1926
  1 program

- **BOX-FOLDER 2/34**
  Kinsolving Concerts season, Chicago 1926-1927
  1 brochure and 1 flyer
  Denishawn performance included among 1927 concerts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| BOX-FOLDER 2/35 | Studebaker Theatre, Chicago 1927  
1 program  
Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, and Denishawn Dancers |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/36 | Jacob's Pillow Dance Theatre, 1949  
1 program  
World premiere of *The Dreams of Jacob* |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/37 | Carnegie Hall, New York, 1950  
1 program  
Ruth St. Denis Dance Recital  
Autographed: To Beth from "Papa" Shawn |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/38 | Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, 1969  
2 programs |
| BOX 2, 4 | **Other Performances, 1917-1935** |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/39 | Hotel Belvedere, New York, 1917  
1 program  
Henri Châtin Hofmann's recital titled "Dance and Its Relative Arts" |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/40 | Evan-Burrows Fontaine, Palace Theatre, New York, 1917  
1 program  
Betty McCrea in Fontaine's dance pantomimes |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/8 | Mecca, 1920  
1 souvenir program  
Subtitled "a mosaic in music and mime," program is an illustrated text version of the show's action |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/41 | Hippodrome, New York, 1922  
1 souvenir program  
*Better Times*, a musical spectacle  
Photo illustrations include Grace McCrea |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/42 | Le Ballet Royal de Cambodgien [Cambodian Royal Ballet], [1920s?]  
1 program  
Theatre National de l'opera |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/43 | Marta Nova, 1934  
1 program  
Modern dance at YWCA, New York |
| BOX-FOLDER 2/44 | Capitol Theatre, Manila, 1935  
1 program  
Inaugural program for 1935 film season |
| BOX 3-6 | **Printed Matter, 1915-1969**  
This series encompasses books and pamphlets, clippings and articles, and promotional materials related to Denishawn performances and classes. A small number of postcards printed with photos also are found here. Most of these items feature Denishawn artists or mention Denishawn dancers by name, and Ruth St. Denis figures most prominently among these. Clippings and articles that have no discernible date are organized by magazine title, and where there is no identification, these are in folders marked as unidentified. Of note are the four-issue set of Volume 1 of *Denishawn Magazine*, a quarterly publication with essays by St. Denis and Shaw that ceased publication at the end of its first year, and a copy of Ted Shawn's two-volume, limited-edition art book on Ruth St. Denis. |
Arranged in four subseries: Books and Pamphlets; Clippings and Articles; Promotional Matter; and Postcards. Items are arranged by date, with the exception of clippings, where the publications are arranged alphabetically by title and therein arranged by date.

**BOX 3-5 Books and Pamphlets, 1916-1962**

**BOX-FOLDER 3/30**  
*Denishawn: The Ruth St. Denis School of Dancing and Its Related Arts*, 1916  
1 booklet [17 p.]  
Second season of Denishawn school

**BOX-FOLDER 3/31**  
*Denishawn: The Ruth St. Denis School of Dancing and Its Related Arts*, 1917  
1 booklet [20 p.]  
Third season of Denishawn school

**BOX-FOLDER 5**  
*see also Book promotions*  
2 volumes  
By request

**BOX-FOLDER 3/32-35**  
*Denishawn Magazine*, 1924-1925  
4 issues  
Volume 1, numbers 1-4 (full set)

**BOX-FOLDER 4/32**  
*How Beautiful upon the Mountain: A History of Jacob's Pillow*, by Ted Shawn, 1948 reprint  
1 copy

**BOX-FOLDER 3/36**  
*Poems*, by Ruth St. Denis, [1950s]  
1 copy

**BOX-FOLDER 3/37**  
1 book  
Inscribed on front flyleaf: Beth McCrea Troster-Manilla April 3, 1963  
Annotations in margins on McCrea appearances

**BOX 3-4 Clippings and Articles, 1915-1968**

**BOX-FOLDER 3/1**  
*Daily News* (New York), 1957

**BOX-FOLDER 3/2-3**  
*Dance Lovers Magazine*, 1924  
Includes reprint of article titled "The Story of Denishawn"

**BOX-FOLDER 4/9-12**  
*Harper's Bazaar*, 1916-1925  
Includes article on South America and clippings of illustrations of Erté clothing designs

**BOX-FOLDER 3/4**  
*Herald Tribune*, 1957

**BOX-FOLDER 3/5**  
*Philadelphia Evening Bulletin*, early 1950s

**BOX-FOLDER 3/6**  
*Physical Culture Journal*, 1920  
Article on techniques of statue-posing

**BOX-FOLDER 4/13**  
*Play Journal*, 1918

**BOX-FOLDER 4/14**  
*Shadowlands*, circa 1919-1923?

**BOX-FOLDER 4/15**  
*The Tatler*, 1917

**BOX-FOLDER 4/16-18**  
*Vanity Fair*, 1916-1919

**BOX-FOLDER 3/7**  
*Vanity Fair*, 1918  
Published photo of Denishawn troupe in California production of *The Light of Asia*, based on Edwin Arnold's poetic drama

**BOX-FOLDER 4/19-21**  
*Vogue*, 1916-1919, and undated

**BOX-FOLDER 3/8-9, 4/22-23**  
Unidentified clippings, circa 1915-1919, 1950
## Printed Matter, 1915-1969

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 3/10</td>
<td>Unidentified newspaper obituary, [1968]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| BOX-FOLDER 3/11-12 | Unidentified magazine photographs (individuals), undated  
Ruth St. Denis, Grace McCrea, other dancers |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/13 | Unidentified magazine photographs (groups), circa 1916-1920s |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/14 | Unidentified miscellaneous clippings, undated  
Unrelated to Denishawn or dance |
| BOX 3-6 | Promotional Material, 1916-1969 |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/24 | Maud Allan advertisement, 1916 
1 flyer  
For performance at Grays Armory, Cleveland |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/15 | St. Denis flyer, [1916] 
1 flyer  
Advertising 4th transcontinental tour |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/16, 4/25 | Denishawn school flyers, [1917] 
3 flyers  
Annotation identifying Grace McCrae image on one flyer |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/26 | Denishawn company brochure, circa 1917 
1 brochure  
Compiles and reprints photos and essays on Denishawn, its founders, and dancers |
| BOX-FOLDER 6/2 | Desiree Lubowska brochure, 1917 
1 brochure |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/27 | Denishawn and Red Cross flyer, circa 1917 
1 flyer  
Promotes Denishawn benefits for Red Cross |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/17 | Julnar of the Sea card, circa 1919 
1 mailing card  
Used by Grace McCrea for birthday note to sister Betty; stage illustration annotated to identify Betty Horst and Grace |
| BOX-FOLDER 5/1 | Book promotions, 1920 
1 booklet; 1 flyer  
Promotes Shawn's art book on Ruth St.Denis |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/18 | Ted Shawn and Denishawn brochure, 1921-1922? 
1 brochure  
Photos clipped from Shawn's 1921-1922 season brochure? |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/19 | Ruth St. Denis and Denishawn brochure, circa 1922-1923 
1 brochure |
| BOX-FOLDER 6/3 | Ruth St. Denis and Denishawn brochure, 1923 
1 brochure  
Promotes Town Hall concert |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/20 | Music visualization concert flyer, 1923 
1 brochure |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/28 | Creative Dance Magazine brochure, circa 1925 
1 brochure and set of reference copies  
Promoting magazine that replaced Denishawn Magazine |
| BOX-FOLDER 6/4 | Poster, Empire Theatre, Kandy, 1925 
1 item  
Asia tour |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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</thead>
</table>
1 item  
Asia tour |
| BOX-FOLDER 6/6 | Press clippings compiled, 1925  
4 p.  
Asia tour |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/21, 6/8 | Denishawn bulletins on Asia tour, [1926]  
2 item  
Reporting on activities and performances |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/22 | Denishawn advertisement, 1926-1927?  
1 flyer  
For Chicago performance in 1927 |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/23 | Jacob's Pillow gala event, [1945]  
1 flyer |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/29 | Ted Shawn brochure, circa 1947-1948  
1 brochure |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/30 | Ruth St. Denis brochure, 1949  
2 brochures  
Compilations of different materials (reviews, photos); covers use different photographs of St. Denis |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/24 | Ted Shawn flyer, 1949  
1 booking flyer |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/25 | Advertisement, 1950?  
1 flyer  
Advertisement for reprint of Ted Shawn's *Dance We Must* |
| BOX-FOLDER 4/31 | Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival tour brochure, [1952]  
1 brochure  
First year for Pillow Festival to tour |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/26 | Jacob's Pillow press release, 1969  
1 typed page |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/27 | Denishawn address label, undated  
1 label  
Addressed to Betty Ross at McCrea family's Brooklyn address |

**BOX 3**

**Postcards, undated**

| BOX-FOLDER 3/28 | Souvenir postcards, undated  
11 postcards, 1 photo  
Landmarks and scenes of Asia |
| BOX-FOLDER 3/29 | Theatrical postcards, undated  
3 postcards  
Performers include: Mr. Wilno, stunt performers  
Wilno card is annotated on verso in German |

**BOX 3**

**Notebooks, 1926 and undated**

Two sets of hand-written notes: one, recording performances and other events during Denishawn Asia tour; the other, choreographic notes for dance titled *Chrysanthemum*  
Arranged by subject.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 3/38</td>
<td>Choreographic notes, undated</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6 p. hand-written in pencil</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Titled Chrysanthemum or Wysteria Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX-FOLDER 3/39</td>
<td>Tour notes, [1926]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 p. hand-written in pencil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Describes movements, staging, costumes, and other details of performances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>seen in a number of cities in India during 1926 Denishawn Asia tour</td>
</tr>
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</table>