



The New York Public Library Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Job Sanders papers

1946-2008

(S) *MGZMD 359

Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2014

Summary

Creator: Sanders, Job, 1929-2008

Title: Job Sanders papers

Date: 1946-2008

Size: 4.9 linear feet (13 boxes, 1 oversized folder)

Source: Gift of Nadja Sanders, 2009.

Abstract: The Job Sanders papers date from 1946 to 2008 and document the ballet dancer and choreographer's career through photographs, programs, articles, and choreographic notes.

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Processing note: Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2014 Original order was maintained.

Creator History

Job Sanders (1929-2008) was a Dutch ballet dancer, choreographer, and dance instructor. Born in Amsterdam, he and his family moved to the United States in 1939. Sanders studied under George Balanchine and eventually joined his company, Ballet Society, in 1946. He danced with several different companies around the world, including Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, Kovach and Robavsky, the American Ballet Theatre, the Chicago Opera Ballet, and Nederlands Dans Theater. In the 1970s, Sanders began exclusively teaching and choreographing at companies and schools, including Ballet Classico de Bellas Artes, the Pennsylvania Ballet, the North Carolina School of Art, the Royal Conservatory in The Hague, and the Rotterdam Dance Academy.

After he retired, Sanders danced and taught tango in The Hague from 1990 until his death in 2008.

Scope and Content Note

The Job Sanders papers date from 1946 to 2008 and document his career in dance, choreography, and teaching through photographs, programs, articles, and choreographic notes. The collection consists of files for dance companies, ballets, and subjects. The degree to which each dance company, ballet, or subject is represented varies, though files typically hold photographs, programs, and articles.

The best-represented dance companies in the collection are the American Ballet Theatre (ABT), Nederlands Dans Theater, and Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. Sanders' professional relationship with his first wife, dancer Sonia Arova, is represented through photographs and programs for their performances together with ABT and the American Festival Ballet. Other ABT photographs document a company trip and performances in Chile, summer classes Sanders taught in Denver, Colorado, and stills and performance shots for *Giselle* and *Lilac Garden*. Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo material primarily consists of programs and photographs from 1948 to 1950 documenting Sanders in several performances, most notably his role in *Paquita* (1951). Correspondence and publicity material for the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo's 2000 annual reunion celebration is present. Nederlands Dans Theater files document Sanders' performance and choreography with the company during the 1960s and contain photographs, programs, posters, reviews, and scrapbooks. Other companies represented in the collection include Ballet Society, the Chicago Opera Ballet, the North Carolina Dance Theater, and Ballet Clasico de Bellas Artes.

Sanders' choreography is represented through programs, reviews, and rehearsal and performance photographs. Among the several ballets covered in the collection are *Impressions* (1967), *Summernight* (Norway, 1968), *Threater Piece* (1972), and *Idylle* (Holland, 1988). Sanders' ballets were frequently performed by multiple companies, such as *Screenplay* (1965), performed by Nederlands Dans Theater, Ballet Nacional Chileno, and the North Carolina School of Arts. Choreographic notes and ballet scripts are also present for some works, such as *The Careless Burghers* (1957), *Soleriana* (1963), *En L'Air* (1970), and multiple unidentified dances.

The collection also holds student-related materials, tango programs and articles, and personal photographs. Student-related materials date from the 1970s to the 1980s and consist of performance and studio photographs and programs for shows put on by the North Carolina School of Arts, the Royal Conservatory at The Hague, and The Rotterdam Dance Academy. Many of the personal photographs are portraits taken by Sanders of friends and other dancers in casual, outdoor settings.

The collection is chiefly in English and Dutch, with some materials in Spanish, Hebrew, Italian, and Japanese.

Arrangement: The collection is arranged alphabetically by dance company, ballet, or subject.

Key Terms

Subjects

Ballet

Occupations

Choreographers

Dancers

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Photographs
Posters
Programs (documents)

Names

American Ballet Theatre
Nederlands Dans Theater

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1-4 American Ballet Theatre 1946-1957
American Festival Ballet
- b. 1 f. 5 1958-1960 1958-1960
 - o. 1 1958-1960 1958-1960
Dance cage - flat file # 263
- b. 1 f. 6 Arova, Sonia and Sanders, Job 1956-1960
Articles
- b. 2 f. 1-3 1948-1969
- b. 1 f. 7-9 1957-1969
Bachianas Braskeiras
- b. 2 f. 4-5 1954-1957
- b. 11 f. 1 1958-1959
- b. 2 f. 6-10 Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo 1948-2000
 - b. 3 f. 1 Ballet Society 1947-1948
Bat Dor Dance Company
 - o. 1 1970 1970
Dance cage - flat file # 263
 - b. 3 f. 2 1970-1973 1970-1973
 - b. 3 f. 3 *The Careless Burghers* 1957
 - b. 3 f. 4-5 Chicago Opera Ballet 1955-1959
Choreography and Class Notes
 - b. 3 f. 6-10 1956-1975
Choreographic notes for *Soleriana* and *En L'Air* are here.
 - b. 4 f. 1 1975
 - b. 4 f. 2 *Choreostruction* 1967
 - b. 4 f. 3 *Danses Concertantes* 1966
 - b. 13 f. 1 *Dichterliebe* 1978
Photograph album
 - b. 4 f. 4 *En L'Air-The Bird- Les Oiseaux* 1970-1981
 - b. 4 f. 5 *Fugitive Visions* 1968-1972
 - b. 4 f. 6 *Hatweeoh* 1976
 - b. 4 f. 7-8 *L'Histoire du Soldat* 1972-1981
 - b. 4 f. 9 *Idylle* 1988
Impressions
 - b. 11 f. 2 1963-1973 1963-1973
- b. 5 f. 1-2 1967-1973 1967-1973
 - b. 5 f. 3 Kovach and Robavsky 1955-1956
- b. 5 f. 4-7 Mexico 1970-1982
- b. 5 f. 8 Miscellaneous Papers 1956-2006
- b. 6 f. 1 *Mixummerdaydream* 1968

- b. 6 f. 2 Het Nederlands Ballet 1960-1962
 - o. 1 Het Nederlands Ballet 1960s
Dance cage - flat file # 263
- b. 12 f. 1-2 1961-1966 1961-1966
Scrapbooks
- b. 6 f. 3-6 1961-2000 1961-2000
 - o. 1 1966-1967 1966-1967
Dance cage - flat file # 263
- Nederlands Dans Theater
- b. 6 f. 7 1962-1982 1962-1982
- b. 11 f. 4 1978 1978
- North Carolina Dance Theater
- b. 6 f. 8 *Pas Trop*--- 1972
- b. 7 f. 1-7 Photographs 1946-1980s
- b. 8 f. 1 *Pop Beat '65* 1965
- b. 8 f. 1-2 *Screenplay* 1966-1967
- b. 8 f. 4-5 *Sleeping Beauty* 1956-1957
Japan
- b. 11 f. 3 *Soleriana* 1963
- b. 8 f. 6 *Streetcorner Royalty* 1955-1958
- b. 8 f. 7-8 Photographs 1960-1992
- b. 9 f. 1 North Carolina School of the Arts 1969-1971
- b. 9 f. 2-3 Student Programs-Holland 1973-2007
- Student-Related Material
- b. 9 f. 4 *Summernight* 1968-1978
- b. 9 f. 5 *Tango* 1990-2008
- b. 9 f. 6 *Theater Piece* 1972-1974
- b. 9 f. 7 *Torino, Italy* 1972-1974
- b. 9 f. 8 *El Viaje* 1962
- b. 10 f. 1 *De Valkuil* 1962-1972
The Taming
- b. 10 f. 2 *Voddenraper* 1964
The Ragpicker
- b. 10 f. 3 *Waring, James* 1968-1976
- b. 10 f. 4 *Wedding Cake* 1971-1972