



The New York Public Library  
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

**Georgia Hiden collection of Mathilde Kshessinska materials**

1939-1973

(S) \*MGZMD 362

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2014

## Summary

**Creator:** Hiden, Georgia

**Title:** Georgia Hiden collection of Mathilde Kshessinska materials

**Date:** 1939-1973

**Size:** .21 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Donated by Georgia Hiden, 1993.

**Abstract:** Mathilde Kshessinska was a Russian ballet dancer and teacher. The Georgia Hiden collection of Mathilde Kshessinska materials dates from 1939 to 1973, and contains letters to Hiden from or concerning Kshessinska, photographs of Kshessinska, and clippings relating to her career. The material is in French, German, and English.

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**Processing note:** Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2014

## Creator History

Mathilde Kshessinska (1872-1971) was a Russian ballet dancer and teacher. She studied at the Imperial Theater School in St. Petersburg, and made her debut at the Mariinsky Theater. She was appointed prima ballerina assoluta in 1895, only five years after her debut. Kshessinska retired from the stage in 1911. She had one son, Vladimir, with the Grand Duke Andrei Vladimirovich of Russia. Kshessinska and the Grand Duke married in 1921, and she was given the title Princess Romanovsky-Krasinsky. The two resided in Paris, where Kshessinska opened a ballet school in 1929.

Georgia Hiden was a dancer, and a friend of Kshessinska and her son.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Georgia Hiden collection of Mathilde Kshessinska materials dates from 1939 to 1973. The collection contains letters to Hiden from or concerning Kshessinska, photographs of Kshessinska, and clippings relating to her career. The collection also contains one short letter from Jurgen Schneider and a note regarding the death of Erika Hanka. The material in the collection is in French, German, and English.

Letters from Kshessinska and her son, Vladimir Romanoff, are in French, and date from 1939 to 1973. Kshessinska's letters are short, and briefly touch on subjects such as her health, the death of her sister, her gratitude to Hiden, and her dance students. Letters from Kshessinska's son, Vladimir Romanoff, chiefly concern his mother and monetary problems after her death. Clippings include photocopies of reviews of Kshessinska's performances in 1903 and 1912 from an Austrian newspaper.

## **Key Terms**

### **Names**

Kshessinskai\_a\_, Matil\_da Feliksovna, 1872-1971

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1-4 Letters 1939-1973
- b. 1 f. 5-6 Photographs and Clippings 1939-1972