



# The New York Public Library Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

## **Otto F. Hess negatives**

1940s-1950s

\*MGZEB 22-0013

Processed by Heather Lember in 2022.

### **Summary**

**Creator:** Hess, Otto F.

**Title:** Otto F. Hess negatives

**Date:** 1940s-1950s

**Size:** 0.21 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Source of acquisition is unknown.

**Abstract:** Otto F. Hess was a photographer who captured images of cultural life in New York City. His collection contains negatives depicting dancers and dance performances in the 1930s and 1940s.

**Preferred citation:** Otto F. Hess negatives, \*MGZEB 22-0013. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Processed by Heather Lember in 2022.

### **Creator History**

Otto Fredrich Hess (1906-1968) was born in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1930. While initially working in a sales job, Hess began taking photographs until it became his primary occupation by 1940. Although he is mostly known for his photographs of musicians and jazz performances in New York City, Hess also photographed dancers and actors throughout the 1940s and 1950s.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The collection dates from the 1940s to 1950s, and contains negatives depicting dancers and dance performances photographed by Otto F. Hess. The negatives are arranged alphabetically by the name or topic assigned by Hess. Among those depicted are Theodore Adolphus, Valerie Bettis, Martha Graham,

Eileen Darby, Anton Dolin, Michael Kidd, Alicia Markova, Léonide Massine, Jerome Robbins, Robert Sidney, Anna Sokolow, Helen Tamiris, Antony Tudor, Charles Weidman, and Igor Youskevitch.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

Dancers -- New York (State) -- New York

### **Occupations**

Dancers.

Photographers.

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Negatives (photographs)

### **Names**

Hess, Otto F.

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Adolphus, Theodore
- b. 1 f. 2 Ballet For America
- b. 1 f. 3 Ballet Rehearsal
- b. 1 f. 4 Bettis, Valerie
- b. 1 f. 5 Dancers -- American Music Hall
- b. 1 f. 6 Dancers -- Jazz
- b. 1 f. 7 Dancers -- Spanish
- b. 1 f. 8 Dancers -- Tahiti
- b. 1 f. 9 Darby, Eileen
- b. 1 f. 10 Disc -- Square Dance
- b. 1 f. 11 Dolin, Anton and Markova, Alicia
- b. 1 f. 12 Graham, Martha
- b. 1 f. 13 Kidd, Michael
- b. 1 f. 14 Massine, Léonide
- b. 1 f. 15 New York City Center Ballet
- b. 1 f. 16 Robbins, Jerome
- b. 1 f. 17 Sidney, Robert
- b. 1 f. 18 Sokolow, Anna
- b. 1 f. 19 Tamiris, Helen
- b. 1 f. 20 Tudor, Antony
- b. 1 f. 21 Weidman, Charles
- b. 1 f. 22 Youskevitch, Igor