



## The New York Public Library Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

### **Elizabeth Anderson-Ivantzova research materials**

1910s-2006

(S) \*MGZMD 348

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2014

### **Summary**

**Creator:** Sullivan, Lawrence

**Title:** Elizabeth Anderson-Ivantzova research materials

**Date:** 1910s-2006

**Size:** .42 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Donated by Lawrence Sullivan, 2006.

**Abstract:** Elizabeth Anderson-Ivantzova (1890-1973) was a Russian-American ballet dancer and teacher. The Elizabeth Anderson-Ivantzova research materials were compiled by Lawrence Sullivan in the preparation of his book, *Elizabeth Anderson-Ivantzova: A Bolshoi Ballerina Abroad* (2006). The collection contains photographs, correspondence, official documents, and programs documenting Anderson-Ivantzova's life and career. Materials date from the 1910s to 2006; the collection also holds copies of documents and photographs dated as early as 1890.

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**Preferred citation:** Elizabeth Anderson-Ivantzova research materials, (S) \*MGZMD 348. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library.

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

### **Creator History**

Elizabeth Anderson-Ivantzova was born in 1890 in Moscow. She joined the Bolshoi Ballet after graduating from the Imperial Ballet School in 1906. She married her dance partner, Leonid Zhukov, in 1913. The couple divorced in 1922 and the next year she married Ivan Ivantsoff, an operatic tenor.

Anderson-Ivantzova immigrated to the United States in 1923, where she toured with Balieff's Chauve-Souris. She also choreographed ballets, including a 1929 production of Stravinsky's *Les Noces*. In 1937 she established the Anderson-Ivantzova School of Dance in New York City. She was known as Madame Anderson to her students and colleagues.

Anderson-Ivantzova died in 1973 in New York City.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Elizabeth Anderson-Ivantzova research materials (1910s-2006) were compiled by Lawrence Sullivan in the preparation of his book, *Elisabeth Anderson-Ivantzova: A Bolshoi Ballerina Abroad* (2006). The collection contains photographs, correspondence, official documents, and programs. Some of the research materials are original; many are photocopies or prints of materials dating from 1890 (Anderson-Ivantzova's birth certificate) to the 1960s. The collection also holds letters and notes from those who assisted Sullivan in his research in the 1980s and 1990s. Sullivan added brief notes identifying some of the materials in 2006.

Most of the photographs in the collection are prints of photographs that were originally taken in the 1910s and 1920s, though a few of the photographs date from the 1930s to the 1960s. These pictures show Anderson-Ivantzova as she appeared in various ballets, and with family, friends, and colleagues. Images of costume and set designs for *Les Noces* and other productions are present.

Documentation of Anderson-Ivantzova's life and career includes documents such as passports and a certificate of divorce; copies of papers from her personnel file at the Moscow Imperial Theatres; a 1917 program for the Bolshoi performance of *Don Quixote*; a leaflet for her ballet school in New York City; and copies of her letters and postcards to her husband in 1923 and 1924. Most of the Russian-language documents are accompanied by translations. The collection also holds a publicity leaflet for Ivan Ivantzoff, and his passport from 1919.

## **Key Terms**

### **Occupations**

Ballet dancers  
Dance teachers

### **Names**

Anderson-Ivantzova, Elizaveta  
Ivantzoff, Ivan, 1884-1967

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 5-12 Correspondence, Notes, Official Documents, and Programs 1917-1930s, 1982-2006
- b. 1 f. 1-4 Images 1910s-1990s