



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Ballets: U.S.A. records

circa 1956-1962

(S) *MGZMD 46

Processed by Diane Coburn Brüning.

Summary

Creator: Hayward, Leland, 1902-1971

Title: Ballets: U.S.A. records

Date: circa 1956-1962

Size: approximately 2330 items in 194 folders

Source: Gift of Mrs. Averell Harriman (widow of Hayward). Received: 1974 from the Theater Collection (original gift in 1972).

Abstract: The Leland Hayward Records of Ballets: U.S.A. document the years 1956-1962, before the company's inception until its demise, from the papers kept by the company's producer.

Preferred citation: Guide to the Hayward, Leland, 1902-1971. Records of Ballets: U.S.A. (Company), (S) *MGZMD 46, Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Diane Coburn Brüning.

Creator History

Leland Hayward was born September 13, 1902, in Nebraska City, Nebraska, and moved with his family to New York at age nine. Hayward became a producer, theatrical agent, and literary agent, representing artists such as Judy Garland, Clark Gable, Fred Astaire, Katharine Hepburn, Henry Fonda, and Ernest Hemmingway. His productions appeared on Broadway, in motion pictures, and on television.

Hayward's long-standing association with Jerome Robbins began with the musical "Call Me Madam" in 1950. His entry into the field of dance was as producer for Robbins Ballets: U.S.A. The company was formed in the Spring of 1958 to appear at the Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, Italy and at the Brussels World's Fair. Its debut was supported by the Cather-wood Foundation of Philadelphia and presented in association with the International Cultural Program of the United States, administered by the American National Theatre and Academy (A.N.T.A.).

The name was chosen to identify its source and nationality. Its stated purpose was to give young artists a chance to work and develop. The company itself began with sixteen dancers in 1958 and was enlarged to 24 by 1961. The repertoire, almost entirely comprised of Robbins' works, reflected classical ballet and contemporary jazz techniques. It included Robbins' "Afternoon of a Faun," "The Concert," "New York Export: Opus Jazz," "Moves," "Interplay," "The Cage," "Events," and Todd Bolender's "Games."

In 1959 Hayward presented the company both abroad and in domestic tours. The company was inactive during 1960. Under the sponsorship of the Rebekah W. Harkness Foundation, the company of 24 dancers appeared once again at Spoleto in June 1961, followed by a three-month tour including Paris, Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, Copenhagen, and London, and a three-week New York season at the A.N.T.A. Theatre in October. The company ceased regular activities in 1962.

Leland Hayward died on March 18, 1971.

Scope and Content Note

The Leland Hayward Records of Ballets: U.S.A. document the years 1956-1962, before the company's inception until its demise, from the papers kept by the company's producer.

Arrangement: I. Correspondence II. Writings of Jerome Robbins III. Company Publicity IV. Contracts V. Financial Papers VI. Miscellaneous

Key Terms

Titles

Gift of Mrs. Averill Harriman

Subjects

Manuscripts -- Collections

Names

Hayward, Leland, 1902-1971

Robbins, Jerome

Ballets: U.S.A. (Company)

Container List

I. Correspondence 1956-1962 (833 items)

The correspondence series, 1956-1962 (833 items) includes three letters from Jerome Robbins, extensively documenting his reaction to working with the Royal Danish Ballet on "Fanfare" in 1956. The general correspondence, 1959-1962 (830 items), is arranged chronologically covering business and artistic aspects of the company's operation.

A. Letters written by Jerome Robbins (3 items)

f. 1 (3 Items)

B. General correspondence 1959-1962 (830 items)

f. 2 1958 July (22 Items)
f. 3-4 1958 Aug. (40 Items)
f. 5-7 1958 Sept. (33 Items)
f. 8-10 1958 Oct. (54 Items)
f. 11-14 1958 Nov. (73 Items)
f. 15 1958 Dec. (10 Items)
f. 16 1959 Jan. (9 Items)
f. 17 1959 Feb. (23 Items)
f. 18-20 1959 Mar. (32 Items)
f. 21-23 1959 Apr. (34 Items)
f. 24-26 1959 May (40 Items)
f. 27-32 1959 June (79 Items)
f. 33-36 1959 July (64 Items)
f. 37-40 1959 Aug. (82 Items)
f. 41-44 1959 Sept. (72 Items)
f. 45-46 1959 Oct. (46 Items)
f. 47 1959 Nov. (17 Items)
f. 48 1959 Dec. (16 Items)
f. 49 1960 Jan. (3 Items)
f. 49 1960 Feb. (4 Items)
f. 49 1960 Mar. (6 Items)
f. 50 1960 Apr. (13 Items)
f. 51 1960 May (10 Items)
f. 52 1960 June (9 Items)
f. 53 1960 July (4 Items)
f. 53 1960 Aug. (1 Items)
f. 53 1960 Sept. (2 Items)
f. 53 1960 Oct. (6 Items)
f. 54 1960 Nov. (3 Items)
f. 54 1960 Dec. (2 Items)
f. 55 1961 (11 Items)
f. 56 1962 (5 Items)
f. 57 n.d (5 Items)

II. Writings of Jerome Robbins (10 items)

The writings of Jerome Robbins (10 items) include a draft of an article on the Royal Danish Ballet based upon his work there, as well as other manuscripts on dance.

- f. 58 The Background of Ballets: U.S.A. (4 Items)
- f. 59 "I get ideas for dances from two sources..." (1 Items)
- f. 60 In Israel: A Communication (2 Items)
- f. 61 Some Impressions of the Royal Danish Ballet (3 Items)

III. Company Publicity 1956-1961 (86 items)

The company publicity, 1956-1961 (86 items), comprises press releases, itineraries, program copy and casting, and foreign review translations. The contracts, 1958-1959 (191 items), arranged chronologically, are primarily those with the dancers for the various seasons, with some theater booking contracts.

A. Press releases (32 items)

- f. 62 1956 (6 Items)
- f. 63 1957 (4 Items)
- f. 64 1958 (7 Items)
- f. 65 1959 (8 Items)
- f. 66 1961 (7 Items)

B. Itineraries 1958-1959 (7 items)

- f. 67 7 itineraries 1958-1959

C. Program copy and casting (16 items)

- f. 68 1958 (3 Items)
- f. 69-71 1961 (13 Items)

D. Reviews (translations), 1959 tours (9 items)

- f. 72 Spoleto 1959 (6 Items)
- f. 73 Other tours 1959 (3 Items)

E. Miscellaneous (22 items)

- f. 74 Television interview scripts (2 Items)
- f. 75 Biographies, resumes (7 Items)
- f. 76 Press lists (2 Items)
- f. 77 Guest list for Robbins' reception (1 Items)
- f. 78 Company address list (10 Items)

IV. Contracts 1958-1959 (191 items)

- f. 79 Basic Agreement - A.G.M.A. 1958 (1 Items)
- f. 80 1958 Apr. (1 Items)
- f. 80 1958 July (14 Items)
- f. 81-82 1958 Aug. (21 Items)
- f. 83-84 1958 Sept. (21 Items)
- f. 85 1958 Oct. (24 Items)
- f. 86 1958 Dec. (1 Items)
- f. 87 1959 Feb. (2 Items)
- f. 87 1959 Mar. (2 Items)
- f. 88-90 1959 Apr. (32 Items)

IV. Contracts (cont.)

- f. 91 1959 May (8 Items)
- f. 92 1959 June (3 Items)
- f. 92 1959 Aug. (9 Items)
- f. 93 1959 Sept. (3 Items)
- f. 93 1959 Oct. (3 Items)
- f. 94 1959 n.d. (10 Items)
- f. 95-96 Theater contracts, including price scales and correspondence 1958 Sept. -
1958 Nov (26 Items)

V. Financial Papers 1958-1964 (approx. 1145 items)

The largest series, financial papers (1145 items), is for the most part statements and receipts. These are box office and payroll records, weekly tour expense statements, general receipts, and banking records. Other financial papers cover advertising accounts, budgets, and workman's compensation.

Accountant's statements

- f. 97 1958 Sept./Oct (2 Items)

Box office records

- f. 98 1958 Sept. (39 Items)
- f. 99 1958 Oct. (24 Items)
- f. 100 1958 Nov. (26 Items)

Payroll

- f. 101 1958 Aug. (7 Items)
- f. 102 1958 Sept. (7 Items)

Vouchers, week ending:

- f. 103-104 1958 Sept. 6 (43 Items)
- f. 105-106 1958 Sept. 13 (34 Items)
- f. 107-108 1958 Sept. 20 (31 Items)
- f. 109-110 1958 Sept. 27 (35 Items)

Receipts

- f. 111 1958 July (5 Items)
- f. 112 1958 Aug. (21 Items)
- f. 113-115 1958 Sept. (71 Items)
- f. 116-118 1958 Oct. (57 Items)
- f. 119 1958 Nov. (22 Items)

Road expense statements - 1959

- f. 120-121 #1 June 20-27 (27 Items)
- f. 122-123 #2 June 28-July 4 (33 Items)
- (Spoleto)
- f. 124 #3 July 5-11 (1 Items)
- f. 129-130 #4 July 12-18 (43 Items)
- (Paris)
- f. 127-128 #5 July 19-25 (38 Items)
- (Paris, Monte Carlo)

V. Financial Papers (cont.)
Road expense statements - (cont.)

- f. 129-130 **#6** July 26-Aug. 5 (43 Items)
(Paris)
- f. 131-132 **#7** July 26-Aug. 9 (59 Items)
(Tel Aviv)
- f. 133-134 **#8** Aug. 10-17 (45 Items)
(Salzburg)
- f. 135-137 **#9** Aug. 18-29 (87 Items)
(Yugoslavia)
- f. 138-139 **#10** Aug. 30 - Sept. 4 (60 Items)
(Athens, Edinburgh)
- f. 140-142 **#11** Sept. 5-11 (48 Items)
(Edinburgh)
- f. 143-145 **#12** Sept. 12-19 (117 Items)
(London)
- f. 146-148 **#13** Sept. 22 - Oct. 1 (87 Items)
(Copenhagen, Stockholm)
- f. 149-150 **#14** Oct. 1-5 (46 Items)
(Berlin)
- f. 151-153 **#15** Oct. 8-18 (93 Items)
(Warsaw, Belgrade)
- f. 154-156 **#16** Oct. 19-26 (91 Items)
(Barcelona, Madrid)
- f. 157-158 **#17** Oct. 27-31 (68 Items)
(Lisbon)
- f. 159-160 **#18** Nov. 1-7 (64 Items)
(Iceland)

Receipts

- f. 161 1959 Jan.-Apr (19 Items)
- f. 162 1959 May (34 Items)
- f. 163-165 1959 June (70 Items)
(with weekly statements)
- f. 166a account statement, European tour 1959 July 13 - Nov. 7 (1 Items)
- f. 166b 1959 July-Aug (12 Items)
- f. 167 1959 Sept. (18 Items)
- f. 168 Oct (11 Items)
- f. 169 check stubs, deposit slips 1959 Feb.-May (1 Items)
- f. 170 1959 May-Dec (ca. 50 Items)
- f. 171 misc. deposit slips 1959 (46 Items)
- f. 172 Bank statements 1959 May-Dec (8 Items)

V. Financial Papers (cont.)

Receipts and Statements cont.

- f. 173 Bank statements, check stubs 1960 (25 Items)
- f. 174 Bank statements, check stubs 1961 (14 Items)
- f. 175 Bank statements, check stubs 1962 (19 Items)
- f. 176 Bank statements, check stubs 1963 (18 Items)
- f. 177 Bank statements, check stubs 1964 (13 Items)
- f. 178-180 Miscellaneous financial including budgets (31 Items)
- f. 181 Advertising accounts 1961 Sept.-Oct (11 Items)
- Workman's Compensation, A.G.M.A.
 - f. 182 1958 Sept.-Nov (34 Items)
 - f. 183-186 1959 Feb.-Sept (20 Items)
 - f. 187 Insurance account 1959 Nov. 6 (1 Items)

VI. Miscellaneous (63 items)

A small series of miscellaneous manuscripts includes technical notes and various other notes probably made by Hayward.

- f. 188 Passport numbers, addresses of company members (2 Items)
- f. 189 Audience seating assignment n.d. (1 Items)
- f. 190 Subscription Service, Theatre Guild (15 Items)
- f. 191 Technical notes (5 Items)
- f. 192-193 miscellaneous (43 Items)