



The New York Public Library  
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

**Donald Weissmuller papers**

1952-1978

(S) \*MGZMD 67

Processed by Injoo Hwang.

## Summary

**Creator:** Weissmuller, Donald

**Title:** Donald Weissmuller papers

**Date:** 1952-1978

**Size:** 77 items in 8 folders

**Source:** Gift. Received: August 1989.

**Abstract:** The papers of Donald Weissmuller consists almost completely of correspondence, letters and telegrams written between 1952 and 1978.

**Preferred citation:** Weissmuller, Donald. Papers, (S) \*MGZMD 67, Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Processed by Injoo Hwang.

## Creator History

Donald Weissmuller, American dancer and choreographer, was born in Kentucky. He studied many forms of dance, including ballet, jazz and tap.

Weissmuller began dancing professionally with the St. Louis Municipal Opera. He performed in New York in musicals such as *Kismet*, *On the Town*, *Pipe Dream* and *What's Up*. He appeared in films including *Can Can* and *Let's Make Love*. He has also danced on television in the Dinah Shore Show, the Real McCoys and Shirley Temple specials.

Weissmuller was the choreographer and leading dancer for the Garden Court Dinner Theater in San Francisco. He choreographed for several seasons for the Sacramento Music Circus. He toured Italy with Phyllis Gehrig.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The papers of Donald Weissmuller consists almost completely of correspondence, letters and telegrams written between 1952 and 1978. The collection is divided into 2 series, correspondence and financial documents. The largest group in the collection consists of 55 letters to his mother from Weissmuller while he was on tour in Italy in 1952-1953. There are also letters and telegrams to Weissmuller. The financial documents consists of one receipt.

**Arrangement:** I. Correspondence II. Financial Documents

## **Key Terms**

### **Titles**

Gift of Donald Weissmuller

### **Subjects**

Manuscripts -- Collections

### **Names**

Weissmuller, Donald

## Container List

### I. Correspondence

- f. 1-5 A. Letters to Mother from Italy 1952-1953 (55 Items)
- f. 6 B. Letters to Weissmuller (12 Items)
- f. 6 Maurice Lapue/DW 11/17/52
- f. 6 Carlton Miles/DW 8/23/54
- f. 6 B?/DW 11/8/60
- f. 6 Warren P. Munsell/DW 10/4/71
- f. 6 ?/DW 11/8/71
- f. 6 Suson Briggs/DW 8/4/72
- f. 6 Russel Lewis/DW 5/13/78
- f. 6 Mildred Trabue/DW 6/2/78
- f. 6 Roberta M. Bentz/DW 6/7/78
- f. 6 Dorothy Nichols/DW 8/20/78
- f. 6 Jay/DW 8/27/78
- f. 6 Lynne Savage/DW 9/9/78
- f. 7 C. Telegrams (9 Items)
- f. 7 Lillian & Mother/DW 2/7/52
- f. 7 Florence Foster Jenkins/DW 2/7/52
- f. 7 Luke/DW 7/23/54
- f. 7 Alan/DW 7/23/54
- f. 7 Beryl/DW 11/30/55
- f. 7 Kay Dennis/DW 11/30/55
- f. 7 Paul Godkin/DW 5/16/63
- f. 7 Paul Godkin/DW 5/23/63
- f. 7 Jim Austin/DW 6/11/68

### II. Financial Documents

- f. 8 Receipt 1/17/53 (1 Item)