



The New York Public Library  
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

**Tana de Gámez papers**

1969-1974

(S) \*MGZMD 394

Compiled by Lea Jordan, 2014

## Summary

**Creator:** Gámez, Tana de

**Title:** Tana de Gámez papers

**Date:** 1969-1974

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

**Source:** Donated by Tana de Gámez, 1976.

**Abstract:** Tana de Gámez was a Spanish-American author, editor, musician, actress, and radio host. The Tana de Gámez papers hold correspondence regarding the publication and reception of her book *Alicia Alonso: At Home and Abroad* (1971).

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**Processing note:** Compiled by Lea Jordan, 2014

## Creator History

Tana de Gámez was a Spanish-American author, editor, musician, actress, and radio host. She was born in southern Spain and moved to New York with her family at the age of five. After leaving high school early to support her family, de Gámez toured the United States singing and playing the guitar. She won a scholarship to the Institute of Theatre Arts in Hollywood, and appeared in several motion pictures in the United States and Mexico. She also toured with the Spanish dancer Argentinita.

During World War II, de Gámez became a freelance writer and reporter for several American Spanish-language publications. She then joined the Office of War Information where she wrote and translated for the government. After the war, de Gámez wrote travel books and founded the Gres Art Gallery in Washington, D.C. She published her first novel *Like a River of Lions*, in 1967. She is also the author of *The Yoke and the Star: A Novel of the Cuban Revolution* (1966) and *Alicia Alonso: At Home and*

*Abroad* (1971). De Gámez hosted the radio program *Latin American World* on WBAI New York in the 1960s. She retired in New York City.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Tana de Gámez papers hold correspondence regarding the publication and reception of her book *Alicia Alonso: At Home and Abroad* (1971). This includes documentation of her trip to Cuba in 1969 for Dance Magazine, as well as her response to criticism for using a photograph of Alonso in a military costume. A frequent correspondent is British dance critic Arnold Haskell, who sent de Gámez two drafts of his unpublished articles on Alonso. There is also a draft of de Gámez's article "Cuba's Folkloric Group."

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

Ballet dancers  
Dance -- Cuba  
Dance -- History

### **Names**

Haskell, Arnold L. (Arnold Lionel), 1903-1980  
Ballet Nacional de Cuba