



The New York Public Library Music Division

Guide to the

New York City Ballet scores

1930-1965

JPB 14-41

Scores were rehoused and arranged by composer.

Summary

Creator: New York City Ballet

Title: New York City Ballet scores

Date: 1930-1965

Size: 2.5 linear feet (10 boxes)

Source: Donated by the New York City Ballet in 1992.

Abstract: The New York City Ballet (NYCB) was founded by Lincoln Kirstein in 1948. It was descended from several predecessors, including the American Ballet, Ballet Caravan, and the Ballet Society. The New York City Ballet scores date from 1930 to 1965. They contain scores for some 40 compositions which were used in ballets produced by NYCB or one of its predecessors, particularly Ballet Caravan.

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Preferred citation: New York City Ballet scores, JPB 14-41. Music Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Processing note: Compiled by Matthew Snyder, 2014 Scores were rehoused and arranged by composer.

Related Materials:

New York City Ballet records, (S) *MGZMD 168. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library.

Creator History

The New York City Ballet was founded by Lincoln Kirstein in 1948. It was descended from several predecessors, including the American Ballet, Ballet Caravan, and the Ballet Society. Kirstein envisioned an American ballet of young native dancers, trained and schooled to perform new, modern repertory. The company now performs under the direction of Peter Martins. For further information, see

Custodial History

The New York City Ballet kept its records until their donation to the Dance Division. The scores were separated and transferred to the Music Division.

Scope and Content Note

The New York City Ballet (NYCB) scores date from 1930 to 1965. They contain scores for some 40 compositions which were used in ballets produced by NYCB or one of its earlier incarnations, particularly Ballet Caravan. Some are full orchestral scores, while others are piano-conductor scores. Most are published, though there are manuscripts, and many contain annotations, suggesting they were used in performance.

Composers represented include Paul Bowles, Aaron Copland, Robert McBride, Emmanuel Chabrier, Cyril Scott, Alexie Haieff, Charles Turner, Leo Smit, John Cage, Paul Creston, Marc Blitzstein, Henry Brant, Robert McBride, Paul Ramseier, Chou Wen-Chung, Stanley Bate, Carter Harman, and Vittorio Rieti.

Among the notable scores in the collection are Marc Blitzstein's ballet *The Guests* (full score, annotated); *Yankee Clipper*, by Paul Bowles (two-piano scores and a full set of orchestral parts, all manuscripts); *Suite for Orchestra*, also by Bowles (parts only); John Cage's *The Seasons* (piano score, and parts for strings and percussion); Robert McBride's *Jazz Symphony* (parts only); and a set of published music by Emmanuel Chabrier, a favorite composer of George Balanchine's.

Arrangement: The scores are arranged alphabetically by composer.

Key Terms

Occupations

Composers

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Scores

Names

Blitzstein, Marc

Bowles, Paul, 1910-1999

Cage, John

Chabrier, Emmanuel, 1841-1894

Haieff, Alexei, 1914-1994

McBride, Robert, 1911-2007

Turner, Charles

American Ballet Company

Ballet Caravan, Inc. (New York, N.Y.)

Ballet Society (New York, N.Y.)

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1-5 A - B 1930, undated
- b. 8 f. 1-5 B - D 1949-1961
- b. 6 f. 1-6 C - P
- b. 9 f. 1-3 H - Ra 1937-1955
- b. 7 f. 1-7 Mc - S
- b. 10 f. 1-4 Re - T 1946-1965
- b. 2 f. 1-3 Bowles, Paul
- b. 3 f. 1-2 Bowles, Paul
- b. 4 f. 1-6 Chabrier, Emmanuel 1949, undated
- b. 5 f. 1-4 Chabrier, Emmanuel undated