



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Alex Rotov scrapbook

1939-1948

*T-Mss 2014-133

Compiled by cdee, 2015

Summary

Creator: Rotov, Alex

Title: Alex Rotov scrapbook

Date: 1939-1948

Size: .3 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Unknown

Abstract: The Alex Rotov scrapbook consists of pages of clippings documenting the career of comic dancer Alex Rotov (a.k.a. Alexis Rotov).

Conditions Governing Use: The author/creator retains copyright of materials. For information on obtaining permission to publish, contact the Theatre Division at theatre@nypl.org.

Preferred citation: Alex Rotov scrapbook, *T-Mss 2014-133. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Compiled by cdee, 2015

Creator History

Comic dancer Alex Rotov (a.k.a. Alexis Rotov) was born in Russia, possibly in 1907. His family immigrated to New York when Rotov was five. For fourteen years, he studied classical ballet under Ivan Clustine, Mikhail Mordkin, Fokine, and Olga Preobrajenska, receiving a special scholarship given by Anna Pavlova. Rotov's five-foot-two height prevented him from success in classical dance, so he began performing satirical dances, building his career on this. He appeared at the Roxy Theater, Radio City Music Hall, and in movie theatres, nightclubs, musical theater, and operetta productions across the U.S. and around the world.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of unbound scrapbook pages of clippings and reviews documenting the career of comic dancer Alex Rotov (a.k.a. Alexis Rotov), from 1939 to 1948. The clippings are mostly from regional U.S. newspapers.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings

Scrapbooks

Subjects

Dancers -- United States -- 20th century