



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Nicholas Cernovitch designs

1965-1982

(S) *MGZMD 407

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2014

Summary

Creator: Cernovich, Nicola

Title: Nicholas Cernovitch designs

Date: 1965-1982

Size: 1.75 linear feet (3 boxes, 7 oversized folders)

Source: Donated by Maxine Glorsky, assistant to Nicholas Cernovitch, 2008.

Abstract: Nicholas Cernovitch is a lighting designer for dance and theater. The Nicholas Cernovitch designs (1965-1982) consist of lighting design drawings and documents for Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and other dance companies.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

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Creator History

Nicholas Cernovitch (or Nicola Cernovich, b. 1929) is a lighting designer for dance and theater. He began his career as a lighting designer in the 1950s, working for modern dancers and Off-Broadway productions. From 1958 to 1969, he worked for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. He was resident lighting designer for Les Grands Ballets Canadiens from 1970 until his retirement in 1995.

Scope and Content Note

The Nicholas Cernovitch designs (1965-1982) consist of lighting design drawings and documents for dance productions. The majority of the designs are for Les Grands Ballets Canadiens. The files contain lighting plots and sections, cue sheets, cue synopses, magic sheets, hookups, focus charts, and other design documents. Most of the materials are filed by dance, though some are filed by venue, and some are unsorted. The bulk of the material is hand-written or hand-drawn. A few of the files for Les Grands Ballets Canadiens contain show programs. The collection contains a small number of designs for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Dance Theatre of Harlem. Materials are in French and English.

Arrangement: Files are arranged by dance company. Les Grands Ballets Canadiens files are arranged alphabetically by file title. Most files are titled by dance or venue. Unsorted materials are placed at the end of the alphabetical file listing.

Key Terms

Subjects

Stage lighting

Occupations

Stage lighting designers

Names

Grands ballets canadiens

Container List

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens

- b. 1 f. 1 After Eden 1978
- b. 1 f. 2 Allegro Brillante 1971
See also Villon.
- b. 1 f. 3 Artère 1976
- b. 1 f. 4 L'Aujourd'hui de Demain 1970s
- b. 1 f. 5 Beau Dommage 1970s
- b. 1 f. 6 Cantate pour une Joie 1970s
- b. 1 f. 7 Cantique des Cantiques 1970s
- b. 1 f. 8 Carmina Burana 1972
See also Themes & Variations and Trip.
- b. 1 f. 9 Catulli 1973
- b. 1 f. 10 Cérémonie 1970s
See also En Cage.
- b. 1 f. 11 Concerto Barocco 1970s
- b. 1 f. 12 Cords 1970s
See also Trip.
- b. 1 f. 13 Dance Fusion 1970s
- b. 1 f. 14 Dark Voices undated
- b. 1 f. 15 Diabelli Variations 1970s
- b. 1 f. 16 Double Quartet 1978
- b. 1 f. 17 En Cage, On Est 00016 pour Assurer Votre Confort, Cérémonie 1972
 - o. 5 En Cage, On Est 00016 pour Assurer Votre Confort, Cérémonie 1972
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 1 f. 18 La Fille Mal Gardée 1978
See also Villon.
- b. 1 f. 19 Firebird 1972
See also Jeu de Cartes.
- b. 1 f. 20 The Four Temperaments 1970s
- b. 1 f. 21-22 Giselle 1974, 1978
- b. 1 f. 23-24 Hip and Straight, Variations for Four, Aurki, Graduation Ball 1970s
Some Hip and Straight material is also in the Tommy files.
 - o. 1 Hommage a Pierre Mercure 1976
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 1 f. 25 Icarus 1972
See also Themes & Variations.
- b. 1 f. 26 Jeu de Cartes 1970s
Choreography by Brian MacDonald.
 - o. 6 Jeu de Cartes and Firebird 1975
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 1 f. 27 Liberté Tempérée 1970s
- b. 2 f. 1 Lignes et Points 1970s
- b. 2 f. 2 The Lottery 1970s

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 3 **Marathon 1970s**
 - o. 3 **New York City Center 1982**
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 2 f. 4 **Les Noces 1970s**
Choreography by Ludmilla Chiriaeff.
- b. 2 f. 5-6 **The Nutcracker 1965, 1974-1975**
- b. 2 f. 7 **Pas de Quatre 1970s**
- b. 2 f. 8 **Pas Rompu and Quintessence 1970s**
- b. 2 f. 9 **Psaumes 1970s**
Some Psaumes material is also in the Stravinsky file.
- b. 2 f. 10 **Rags 1970s**
- b. 2 f. 11 **Romeo and Juliet 1970s**
- b. 2 f. 12 **St. John's Arts and Culture Centre 1971**
 - o. 3 **St. John's Arts and Culture Centre 1971**
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 2 f. 13 **Serenade 1970s**
- b. 2 f. 14 **The Shining People of Leonard Cohen 1970s**
- b. 2 f. 15 **Stravinsky 1972**
Various Stravinsky pieces.
 - o. 7 **Stravinsky 1972**
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 2 f. 16 **Suite Carignan 1978**
- b. 2 f. 17 **Swan Lake Act II 1976**
- b. 2 f. 18 **Tam Ti Delam 1970s**
 - o. 5 **Themes & Variations, Icarus, Carmina Burana 1972**
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 2 f. 19 **Time Out of Mind 1970s**
- b. 2 f. 20-21 **Tommy 1970-1971**
At Place des Arts in Montreal (1970) and at New York City Center (1971).
 - o. 4 **Tommy 1971**
New York City Center. Dance cage - flat file #262
 - o. 6 **Tour 1975**
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 2 f. 22 **Triomphe d'Aphrodite 1973**
- b. 2 f. 23 **Trip 1973**
 - o. 3 **Trip, Cords, Carmina Burana 1973**
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 2 f. 24 **Try Ready Go 1978**
- b. 3 f. 1-2 **Villon, La Fille Mal Gardée, Allegro Brillante 1970s**
 - o. 2 **Villon, La Fille Mal Gardée, Allegro Brillante 1971**
Dance cage - flat file #262
- b. 3 f. 3 **Workshop 1975**
- b. 3 f. 4 **Unsorted 1970s**
- b. 3 f. 5 **Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre 1967-1968**

- b. 3 f. 6 Dance Theatre of Harlem - Design with Strings 1980
- b. 3 f. 7 Dance Theatre of Harlem - Scheherezade 1980