



The New York Public Library  
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

**Ellen Jacobs Associates records**

1979-2003

(S) \*MGZMD 321

Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2013

## Summary

**Creator:** Ellen Jacobs Associates, 1981-

**Title:** Ellen Jacobs Associates records

**Date:** 1979-2003

**Size:** 11.46 linear feet (29 boxes)

**Source:** Donated by Ellen Jacobs, 2005.

**Abstract:** Ellen Jacobs Associates (EJA), established in 1981 in New York City, is a public relations firm that represents the performing, visual, and literary arts in the United States and internationally. Since its inception, EJA has represented several renowned dance companies and festivals, including Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Paul Taylor Dance Company, Martha Graham Dance Company, Erick Hawkins Dance Company, the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, and multiple productions and festivals put on by the Joyce Theater in New York City. The Ellen Jacobs Associates records (1982-2003) hold public relations files for dance companies represented by the firm. The files consist of clippings, reviews of performances, press releases, and a limited amount of correspondence. Also present in this collection are slides of performances and bound publicity reports. The majority of the documents in this collection are photocopies.

**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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**Processing note:** Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2013 This collection was partially processed in 2005 by the Wilson Project. Original order was maintained.

## **Creator History**

Ellen Jacobs Associates (EJA), established in 1981 in New York City, is a public relations firm that represents the performing, visual, and literary arts in the United States and internationally. Since its inception, EJA has represented several renowned dance companies and festivals, including Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Paul Taylor Dance Company, Martha Graham Dance Company, Erick Hawkins Dance Company, the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, and multiple productions and festivals put on by the Joyce Theater in New York City. EJA also worked with Mikhail Baryshnikov during the establishment of the White Oak Dance Project in 1994. In addition to North American clients, the firm represents international dance companies, such as The Royal Ballet, Maguy Marin, and Ballet Concierto. EJA represented the Tony Award-winning piece, *Movin' Out* (2002), directed and choreographed by Twyla Tharp. As of 2013, the firm is located in New York City and continues to represent artistic companies in the United States and internationally.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Ellen Jacobs Associates (EJA) records (1982-2003) hold public relations files for dance companies represented by the firm. The files consist of clippings, reviews of performances, press releases, and a limited amount of correspondence. Also present in this collection are slides of performances and bound publicity reports. The majority of the documents in this collection are photocopies.

The company files make up the bulk of the collection and contain clippings, reviews, press releases, listings, and schedules relating to productions put on by dance companies. A limited amount of correspondence is present as well. Files for Paul Taylor Dance Company, Martha Graham Dance Company, and Merce Cunningham Dance Company are the most thorough. Other companies and events represented in the company files include Erick Hawkins Dance Company, Margie Gillis, the Lincoln Center Festival (1996), Jacob's Pillow, and Ralph Lemon Dance, among several others. The "All Client" files within this collection contain documents relating to multiple dance companies and events, though not every company represented by EJA is necessarily included. Original and photocopied clippings relating to several of the companies' performances are present in this collection.

The Paul Taylor files contain announcements, press releases, and reviews relating to productions put on by his company between 1988 and 2003. Some correspondence is present, as well as documentation on photo calls for productions. The limited amount of correspondence is between EJA, Paul Taylor Dance Company staff and various media stations, such as CNN and The New York Times. These letters document publicity activities, such as setting up interviews and sending material to news stations and newspapers for the promotion of productions. The Merce Cunningham files consist of reviews, announcements, and schedules for performances dating from 1990 to 2001. The Martha Graham files contain biographical information on company dancers; press releases for performances, awards, and galas; photo call checklists; press and publicity lists; and notes from press conferences. The correspondence relates to the sending and receiving of press releases and material for the promotion of productions.

The slides document performances of the dance companies represented by EJA from 1990 to 2000. The Joyce Theater slides show performances by Ronald K. Harris, Lucinda Childs, Josef Nadj, and Monte/Brown Dance, among others, as well as the *Altogether Different* festival put on by the theater. Other dance companies with slides in this collection include Toronto Dance Theatre's 1999 performance of *Vena Cave*; Parsons Dance Company's performances of *Anthem* and *Dupe*; and The Royal Ballet's 1997 performance of *The Prince of the Pagodas*. There are also slides for Lar Lubovitch, Martha Graham, Momix, and photographs of Doug Elkins Choreography, among others.

Publicity Reports for over 30 dance companies are present and date from 1990 to 1999. Each report contains a combination of photocopies of press releases, announcements, and reviews for a single performance or workshop.

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged alphabetically by dance company, and chronologically within that.

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Announcements  
Clippings (information artifacts)  
Color slides  
Press kits  
Press releases

### **Subjects**

Dance -- New York (State) -- New York  
Dance companies  
Public relations

### **Occupations**

Public relations firms

### **Names**

Joyce Theater (New York, N.Y.)  
Martha Graham Dance Company  
Paul Taylor Dance Company

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b. 26 f. 1-18	1990-1997
b. 1 f. 1-3	1991-1993
b. 27 f. 1-16	1991-1997
b. 1 f. 4	Aperture 1998
b. 1 f. 5-7	Ballet Hispanico 1997
b. 1 f. 8	Concordia 1993
b. 1 f. 9-40	Merce Cunningham 1990-1995
b. 2 f. 1-32	Merce Cunningham 1995-2001
b. 3 f. 1-2	Merce Cunningham 2001
b. 3 f. 3-8	DCDC 1996, 1998
b. 3 f. 9-15	Doug Elkins 1997-1998
b. 3 f. 16-24	Margie Gillis 1995-2000
b. 4 f. 1-32	Martha Graham 1982-1984
b. 5 f. 1-47	Martha Graham 1985-1986
b. 6 f. 1-15	Martha Graham 1986-1988
b. 6 f. 16	Gospel 1996
b. 6 f. 17-19	H. Art Chaos 2000
b. 6 f. 20-25	Erick Hawkins 1994-1996
b. 7 f. 1-11	Joyce Theater 1991-1994
b. 7 f. 12-17	Kibbutz 1998
b. 7 f. 18-21	Lincoln Center 1995-1996
b. 7 f. 22-24	Compagnie Prejlocaj 1997
b. 7 f. 25-26	Ralph Lemon Dance and Co 1995
b. 8 f. 1	Ralph Lemon Dance and Co 1995
b. 8 f. 2-5	La Tania 1997-1998
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b. 9 f. 1-13	1992-1993
b. 10 f. 1-17	1993-1995
b. 11 f. 1-17	1995-1998
b. 12 f. 1-9	1998-1999
b. 13 f. 1-7	1999
b. 14 f. 1-7	1999-2000
b. 15 f. 1-9	2000-2002
b. 16 f. 1-7	2002-2003

Company Files (cont.)  
Paul Taylor Dance Company (cont.)

- b. 17 f. 1 2003
- Publicity Reports
- b. 17 f. 2 Ballet Concierto de Puerto Rico 1995
- b. 17 f. 3-4 Merce Cunningham 1992, 1996
- b. 17 f. 5 Dancing in the Streets 1990
- b. 17 f. 6 Grupo Corpo Brazilian Dance Theatre 1990
- b. 17 f. 7 Ralph Lemon Company 1995
- b. 17 f. 8 Lewitzky Dance Company 1994
- b. 17 f. 9 [José] Limon Dance Company 1995
- b. 18 f. 1-5 Lyon Opera Ballet 1990-1999
- b. 19 f. 1-3 Lyon Opera Ballet 1999
- b. 19 f. 4-5 Mabou Mines 1988, 1990, 1996
- b. 19 f. 6 Malay Drama Theatre of St. Petersburg 1994
- b. 19 f. 7 Manmade 1990
- b. 20 f. 1 Momix 1995-1997
- b. 20 f. 2 Meredith Monk 1996
- b. 20 f. 3 Elisa Monte Dance 1997-1998
- b. 20 f. 4 ODC San Francisco 1996
- b. 20 f. 5 Ohio Ballet 1995
- b. 20 f. 6-7 The Parsons Dance Company 1995-1999
- b. 21 f. 1 Stephen Petronio Company 1996
- b. 21 f. 2 Pilobolus Dance Theatre 1993-1994
- b. 21 f. 3 Rambert Dance Company 1996
- b. 21 f. 4 Repertorio Español 1992
- b. 21 f. 5 Scapino Ballet Rotterdam 1992
- b. 21 f. 6 Shapiro and Smith Dance Theater Workshop 1996
- b. 21 f. 7 Sisters 1990
- b. 21 f. 8 Paul Taylor Dance Company 1991
- b. 22 f. 1 Paul Taylor Dance Company 1993, 1995
- b. 22 f. 2 Les Ballets Trockadero 1995
- b. 22 f. 3-5 The World Financial Center Arts and Events Program 1990, 1993
- b. 23 f. 1 The World Financial Center Arts and Events Program 1993
- b. 23 f. 2 White Oak Dance Project 1997, 1999
- Slides
- b. 23 f. 3 All Clients 1991
- b. 23 f. 4 Doug Elkins 1990s
- b. 23 f. 5 Jacobs Pillow 1998
- b. 23 f. 6 Joyce Theater 2000
- b. 24 f. 1-3 Joyce Theater 2000
- b. 24 f. 4 Lar Lubovitch 1990s
- b. 24 f. 5 Les Ballets de Monte Carlo 1996-1998

Slides (cont.)

- b. 24 f. 6 The Parsons Dance Co 1998-1999
- b. 25 f. 1 The Royal Ballet 1997
- b. 25 f. 2 Toronto Dance Theatre 1999