



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Allan Ross Macdougall collection

1922-1956

(S) *MGZMC-Res. 15

Summary

Creator: Macdougall, Allan Ross, 1893-1956

Title: Allan Ross Macdougall collection

Date: 1922-1956

Size: 67 folders ca. 250 items

Source: Gift. American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. Material received on 3/10/69.

Abstract: The major portion of the collection is comprised of research materials and drafts for Mr. Macdougall's biography of Isadora Duncan, published in 1960 as *Isadora: a revolutionary in art and love*, and correspondence (1953-1956) regarding his efforts to have the work published. It also includes letters to Mr. Macdougall from Irma Duncan concerning the Isadora Duncan School in Moscow (1928) and its continued devotion to the memory of Isadora Duncan. Other correspondents include Maria Theresa (Duncan), Rupert Doone, Henriette Sauret, Ted Shawn, Sergei Essenine (typewritten copy), and copies of the original Isadora Duncan letters found in the Irma Duncan Collection of Isadora Duncan Materials.

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>

Preferred citation: Allan Ross MacDougall Collection, (S) *MGZMC-Res. 15, Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Language of the Material: English Russian

Creator History

Allan Ross Macdougall, an American writer born in 1893, lived and worked in Paris in the 1920's His subjects were wide in range, from the performing arts to the decorative arts for the periodical *Arts and*

Decoration, and sometimes perfume and make-up for the magazines *Charmand Beauty*. A member of Isadora Duncan's circle, he wrote an essay entitled "Isadora: an essay in the biography of an American dancer" which was eventually published in 1960 as *Isadora; a revolutionary in art and love*. With Irma Duncan, he co-wrote a partial biography of Isadora Duncan entitled *Isadora Duncan's life in Soviet Russia and her last years*, published in 1929.

Scope and Content Note

The major portion of the collection is comprised of research materials and drafts for Mr. Macdougall's biography of Isadora Duncan, published in 1960 as *Isadora: a revolutionary in art and love*, and correspondence (1953-1956) regarding his efforts to have the work published. It also includes letters to Mr. Macdougall from Irma Duncan concerning the Isadora Duncan School in Moscow (1928) and its continued devotion to the memory of Isadora Duncan. Other correspondents include Maria Theresa (Duncan), Rupert Doone, Henriette Sauret, Ted Shawn, Sergei Essenine (typewritten copy), and copies of the original Isadora Duncan letters found in the Irma Duncan Collection of Isadora Duncan Materials. |||Language: English, Russian.

Arrangement: I. Isadora Duncan - Correspondence and other documents (folders 1-8) II. Irma Duncan - Correspondence (folders 9-15) III. Gordon Craig[?]- Correspondence and photograph (folders 16-17) IV. Maria Theresa - Correspondence and other documents (folder 18) V. Allen Ross Macdougall - Correspondence, research notes, and drafts of Isadora Duncan biography (folders 19-39) VI. Allen Ross Macdougall - Correspondence and writings (folders 40-54) VII. Allen Ross Macdougall - Correspondence with publishers and agents (folders 55-63) VIII. Grant proposals (folders 64-66) IX. Misc. (folder 67)

Key Terms

Subjects

Manuscripts -- Collections

Names

Macdougall, Allan Ross, 1893-1956

Duncan, Irma

Duncan, Isadora, 1877-1927

Isadora Duncan Schools

Container List

- f. 1 Extracts of letter from Eleanora Duse to Lugne-Poe regarding Isadora Duncan
- f. 2 Copy of letter from Isadora Duncan [to George Maurevert?], regarding death and the deaths of her children summer 1913
- f. 3 Photocopy of 1916 letter from Isadora Duncan to "Mon Cher Poet" [Fernand Divoire], in French; 1954 letter from Grace Ziebarth to ARM regarding letter
- f. 4 Copies of letters from Isadora Duncan to "Friend", to Lugne-Poe; to Paul Kennaday, letter from John Cowper Powys 1913, 1925, 1917
- f. 5 Copy of marriage certificate of Isadora Duncan and Sergei Essenin, Moscow 1922
- f. 6 Envelope and leaf of stationery used at Duncan School in Russia under direction of Irma Duncan
- f. 7 Postcard to Isadora Duncan from ARM, New York with poem by Witter Bynner eulogizing Isadora 1923
- f. 7a Typed copies of a selection of letters from Isadora Duncan, [originals in Irma Duncan Collection] 1921-1927
- f. 8 Passenger list of SS Morro Castle sailing of 12-21-16, including names of Isadora Duncan and ARM
- f. 9 5 letters from Irma Duncan to ARM, from Kiev and Moscow 1928
- f. 10 3 letters from Irma Duncan to ARM 1956
- f. 11 Copy of 1934 letter to "Marguerita" [Augustin Duncan's wife?]; correspondence of Irma Duncan and ARM letter to ARM from Simon & Schuster 1928-1929, 1929
- f. 12 Letters from Irma Duncan to ARM 1952-1954 (1 postcard)
- f. 13 7 letters from Irma Duncan to ARM, 1 small photograph of Isadora Duncan 1955, 1904
- f. 14 Translations of 2 letters from Essenin to to Isadna [UNK], from Wiesbaden, and from Brussels 1922 June, 1922 July
- f. 15 Letter to Irma Duncan from ARM regarding publication of Isadora Duncan and Gordon Craig books 1954?
- f. 16 Photo of Gordon Craig[?]; letters from Gordon Craig[?], to Isadna [UNK] one dated 1913
- f. 17 Copy of letter to Gordon Craig from ARM 1955
- f. 18 Letter from Maria Theresa to ARM, regarding DeMille article on Isadora Duncan in New York Times; copies of letters to DeMille and New York Times from ARM in response to article 1952 (2 clippings)
- f. 19-39 ARM's research notes, correspondence, and drafts of biography of Isadora Duncan
- f. 40 Correspondence, Gilbert Seldes/ARM 1952
- f. 41 Correspondence, Bertha Overbury/ARM 1955
- f. 42 Letter to ARM from Isabel Macdonald
- f. 43 Copy of letter to Lincoln Kirstein from ARM 1954
- f. 44 Misc. ARM correspondence 1953-1956
- f. 45 Letter to ARM from Rupert Doone 1925
- f. 46 Letter to ARM from Henriette Sauret 1928

- f. 47 *Correspondence pertaining to film Mission to Moscow* 1943
- f. 48 Letter to ARM from Ifan Kyrle Fletcher 1955
- f. 49 Letter to Alice De La Mar from ARM 1956
- f. 50 Correspondence with Christine Dalliès, including letter to Arturo Sofo from Dallier after ARM's death, regarding unfinished manuscript 1955-1956
- f. 51 *Note from Philip Kaplan with photostats of drawings made by Grandjouan of Isadora Duncan, copy of The Superman in American with inscription to Irma Duncan by author, Benjamin De Casseres* 1949
- f. 52 *Typed copy of Isadora. A Memoir.*
- f. 53 6 pages of copy and 15 photographs, for article "The House and Garden of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hecht at Nyack, NY" by ARM
- f. 54 Copy of article "On Movie Going in Paris" by ARM
- f. 55-63 Correspondence of ARM with publishers and agents
- f. 64-66 Grant proposals of ARM to aid in writing book on Isadora Duncan
- f. 67 4 unidentified photographs