



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Paul Szilard papers, 1938-1996 and undated

1938-1996 and undated

(S) *MGZMD 172

Processed by Charles Perrier.

Summary

Creator: Szilard, Paul, 1912-2013

Title: Paul Szilard papers, 1938-1996 and undated

Date: 1938-1996 and undated

Size: 1.2 linear feet (43 folders)

Source: Gift of Paul Szilard, 2005.

Abstract: Professional papers of dancer, choreographer, impresario Paul Szilard.

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>

Conditions Governing Access:

Stored OFFSITE.

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Jerome Robbins Dance Division.

Preferred citation: Paul Szilard Papers, Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Processed by Charles Perrier; Machine-readable finding aid created by Charles Perrier. Processed and encoded by Charles Perrier.

Creator History

Paul Szilard was born in 1912 in Budapest, Hungary. He studied ballet in his home city with the Russian dancer Semyon Troyanoff with whom he also performed. His training continued in Paris with Russian émigrés teachers, including Olga Preobrajenska, Madame Rousanne, and Alexandre Volinine,

and, in London, with Stanislas Idzikowski. World War II years were spent in the Philippines during the Japanese occupation. After the American liberation of the islands, Szilard was asked by the United States Army to present a gala celebratory evening for which he both choreographed and danced. Szilard has toured worldwide with such notable performers as Nora Kaye, Collette Marchand, Sonia Arova, among others. As an impresario, he has presented performing troupes internationally, including the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Dancers of Bali, and Bunraku Puppet Theater. Individual dance artists he has represented include Eric Bruhn, Judith Jamison, Violette Verdy, and Patrick Dupond. His autobiography, *Under My Wings: My Life as an Impresario*, was published in 2001. He emigrated to the United States, becoming a citizen in the 1950's, and currently lives in New York City.

Scope and Content Note

The business papers of dancer, choreographer, and impresario Paul Szilard include some correspondence with dance personalities, print materials on his work including programs, press, and publicity items, contracts, correspondence, and other notes with dance groups he has represented, and photographs of his dancing career and individual artists whom he has performed or represented. Many folders include donor's note.

Arrangement: The Paul Szilard Papers are organized in the following series: Series I. Correspondence, 1938-1958 and undated. Series II. Business Papers, 1955-1996. Series III. Photographs. Series IV. Print materials, 1941-1955 and undated.

Key Terms

Occupations

Choreographers
Impresarios

Subjects

Dance companies
Impresarios

Titles

Gift of Paul Szilard

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Manuscripts

Names

Szilard, Paul, 1912-2013
Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
American Ballet Theatre
New York City Ballet

Container List

Series I. Correspondence 1938-1958, undated.

- b. 1 f. 1 Nora Kaye 1953-1958, undated.
- b. 1 f. 2 Nijinsky, Romala 1952-1955.
Most in Hungarian.
- b. 1 f. 3 Miscellaneous 1938-1958, undated.
Correspondents include Kurt Jooss, Georg Solti, Erik Bruhn, and Michael Kidd. Includes donor's notes.
- b. 1 f. 4 Charity performances 1944-1951.

Series II. Business Papers 1955-1996.

- b. 1 f. 5 Agreements 1955-1961.
For Colette Marchand, Nora Kovatch and Istvan Rabovsky, and Indonesia Artists Management.
- b. 1 f. 6 Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater 1972-1973.
Includes donor's note.
- b. 1 f. 7 Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater 1973-1975.
- b. 1 f. 8 American Ballet Theatre, Tokyo 1968.
Includes donor's note.
- b. 1 f. 9 American Ballet Theatre, Europe 1970.
Includes donor's note.
- b. 1 f. 10 American Ballet Theatre 1972, 1996.
Includes donor's note.
- b. 1 f. 11-12 Bayerisches Staatsballett 1992-1993.
Includes donor's note.
- b. 1 f. 13 New York City Ballet 1956-1964.
Includes donor's note.
- b. 1 f. 14 New York City Ballet 1964-1965.
- b. 1 f. 15 *West Side Story production, Japan* 1964.
Includes donor's note.

Series III. Photographs.

- b. 1 f. 16 Solo shots.
- b. 1 f. 17 In performance, with other dancers.
Includes Arianne Pulver and Sonia Arova.
- b. 1 f. 18 Choreography.
Includes "The Miraculous Mandarin" and "Romanian Rhapsody".
- b. 1 f. 19 Salome 1954.
Includes costume design by Martha Beket.
- b. 2 f. 20 Informal group shots.
Includes Szilard with Romala Nijinsky, Sonia Arova, Job Sanders, and Nimura.
- b. 2 f. 21 Allard, Edith.
- b. 2 f. 22 Arova, Sonia and Sanders, Job.
- b. 2 f. 23 Granzeva, Tatiana.
- b. 2 f. 24 Jeanmaire, Zizi.
- b. 2 f. 25 Kaye, Nora.
- b. 2 f. 26 Kovach, Nora and Rabovsky, Istvan.
- b. 2 f. 27 Miskovic, Milorad.

Series III. Photographs. (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 28 Vyroubova, Nina.
- b. 2 f. 29 Identified dancers.
Many inscribed to Paul Szilard.
- b. 2 f. 30 Unidentified dancers.
- b. 2 f. 31-32 New York City Ballet.
- b. 2 f. 33 Oversize miscellaneous.

Series IV. Print materials 1941-1955, undated.

- b. 2 f. 34 Paul Szilard, dancer.
- b. 2 f. 35 Philippines 1943-1953.
- b. 2 f. 36 Komaki Ballet Company 1953
- b. 2 2 f. 37 Paul Szilard Ballet Company 1954-1955.
- b. 3 f. 38-39 Paul Szilard Productions.
- b. 3 f. 40 Miscellaneous programs 1941-1955.
- b. 3 f. 41-43 Press and publicity 1949-1955.