



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Mata and Hari papers

1946-1974

(S) *MGZMD 404

Compiled by Robyn Hjermsstad, 2014

Summary

Creator: Hari, Eugene

Title: Mata and Hari papers

Date: 1946-1974

Size: .21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Donated by Judy McGee.

Abstract: Ruth Mata (Mata Krantz) and Eugene Hari (Otto Ulbricht) were Swiss-born dance satirists. After touring Europe and the United States with the Trudi Schoop Comic Ballet in the 1930s, the couple formed their own company, Mata & Hari. They made their Broadway debut in *The Straw Hat Revue* in 1939 with Jerome Robbins and Imogene Coca. Throughout the 1940s, Mata & Hari performed at upscale supper clubs in New York, including *La Martinique*, the *Beachcomber*, and *The Diamond Horseshoe*, and at many concert halls in New York and San Francisco, including *Carnegie Hall* and the *Warfield*. They made several appearances in television and film from the 1950s to the 1960s, most notably on *The Ed Sullivan Show*. The Mata & Hari papers document their careers from 1946 to 1974, when they were fully engrossed in their school of dance and pantomime in New York City. The collection holds press releases, newspaper reviews, show announcements, and publicity photographs. Their tour of *The World in Pantomime in Dance* in 1963 is the best-represented show in the collection, which featured many of their well-known acts, such as "Kiss Me, My Love" and "Carnegie Hall."

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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Key Terms

Subjects

Dance
Pantomime

Names

Mata, Ruth