Summary

Creator: Garafola, Lynn

Title: Lynn Garafola papers

Date: 1975-2018

Size: 2.71 linear feet (7 containers); 15.48 megabytes (18 computer files)


Abstract: Lynn Garafola is an American dance historian, critic, and professor of dance. The Lynn Garafola papers date from 1975 to 2018 and hold files of her research and writings.

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 off-site materials, please consult: https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials

Conditions Governing Access:

Audio and video recordings are unavailable pending digitization.


Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Compiled by Robyn Hjermstad, 2013.

Creator History

Lynn Garafola is an American dance historian, critic, and professor of dance. She graduated from
Barnard College in 1968, and received her Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from City University of New York in 1985. Garafola's written work on dance is extensive, and includes several books, essays, book reviews, and catalog entries. Garafola has been a Professor of Dance at Barnard College in New York City since 2000.

Scope and Content Note

The Lynn Garafola papers date from 1975 to 2018 and are divided into the following sections: research; writings; lectures and conferences; exhibitions; press; and biographical files.

The research section holds files of materials gathered by Garafola in preparation for her own writings. These files include academic articles by other authors; documents obtained through Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests; and interviews conducted by Garafola. Files of photocopied documents obtained through FOIA requests hold Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), State Department, and passport records of Jerome Robbins, Martha Graham, Anna Sokolow, and Helen Tamiris. These declassified case files were released between 2001 and 2007 and contain photocopies of original documents dating from 1936 to 1997. Research files for an article titled "Imperfect Partners" and for a book about Aaron Copeland are present in this section. Transcripts of interviews with Barbara Horgan, Robert Lindren, and Sonja Tyven conducted by Garafola in 2001 are also included.

The writings section contains files of published and unpublished articles written by Garafola. Most articles address the topic of dance, covering a wide range of performances, festivals, and dance companies. Published articles date from 1983 to 2015 and consist of photocopied clippings arranged by publication name or date. Unpublished writings files hold typescripts of reviews written by Garafola for the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), which date from 1985 to 2004. Most unpublished reviews are inserted into programs for the performances.

The lectures and conferences section dates from 1978 to 2017 and holds materials Garafola gathered in preparation for lectures she gave, panels she spoke on, and conferences in which she participated. Files on the 1988 Rite of Spring Conference include both published and unpublished articles written by other dance scholars, such as Kenneth Archer and Robert Craft. They examine the original 1913 Nijinsky piece, Le Sacre du Printemps (The Rite of Spring), and include choreographic reconstructions.

The exhibitions section dates from 1997 to 2018 and holds invitations, programs, research materials and notes relating to exhibitions Garafola curated, often in conjunction with her other research projects.

The press section dates from 1997 to 2015 and contains press about Lynn Garafola and her professional output including published reviews of her writings; newspaper and magazine articles about her; and interviews with her.

Two files of biographical materials include a curriculum vitae dated 2018 and various awards and honors accrued from 1999 to 2016.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic
Articles
Subjects
Blacklisting of entertainers
Dance
Dance -- Research
Dance History
Subversive activities -- United States -- History -- 20th century

Occupations
Dance critics
Scholars

Names
Garafola, Lynn
Graham, Martha
Horgan, Barbara
Lindgren, Robert
Robbins, Jerome
Sokolow, Anna
Tamiris, Helen, 1905-1966
Tyven, Sonja
Container List

Research

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests

b. 3 f. 1 Graham, Martha 2007
b. 3 f. 2 Robbins, Jerome 2003-2004
b. 3 f. 3-5 Sokolow, Anna 2001-2003
b. 3 f. 6-7 Tamiris, Helen 2001
b. 4 f. 1-2 "Imperfect Partners" 2000-2004
Research materials for an article that was published in Opera News in 2004.

Interviews

Horgan, Barbara
Transcripts of interview with Barbara Horgan conducted by Garafola at Barnard College.

b. 4 f. 3 Transcript 2001 Oct 8
er. 1 2001 Oct 8
(4 computer files 239.5 kilobytes)
b. 4 f. 4 Lindren, Robert and Sonja Tyven 2001 Aug 23
Transcripts of interview with Robert Lindgren and Sonja Tyven conducted by Garafola at North Carolina School of the Arts
b. 4 f. 5 Making an American Dance: Billy the Kid, Rodeo, and Appalachian Spring in Aaron Copland and His World 2004

Writings

Published

b. 5 f. 1 1983-2015
b. 5 f. 2 Ballet News 1983
b. 5 f. 3 Ballet Review 1986-2001
b. 5 f. 4 The Berkshire Eagle 1985-1986
b. 5 f. 5 Dance Research Journal 1985-2002
b. 5 f. 6-7 Dance Magazine 1983-2013
b. 5 f. 8 Dance View 2000-2004
b. 5 f. 9 Dancing Times 1981-1982
b. 5 f. 10 The Drama Review 1993-1996
b. 5 f. 11 Foreign Language 1999, 2006-2013
b. 6 f. 6 In These Times 1977-1984
b. 6 f. 2 The Nation 1990-2007
b. 6 f. 3 New Dance Review 1994-1995
b. 6 f. 5 Non-dance Topics 1975-1993
Includes film reviews and letters to the editor.
b. 6 f. 6 Opera News 2004-2007
Includes "Imperfect Partners" article.
b. 6 f. 7 The Russian Review 2008-2010
b. 6 f. 8 Times Literary Supplement 1992-1994
Writings (cont.)
Published (cont.)

b. 6 f. 9  The Village Voice 2002
b. 6 f. 10 Women's Review of Books 1988-1993

Unpublished
Garafola refers to the unpublished reviews as “audits.”

b. 1 f. 10-13 Reviews 1985-1992
b. 2 f. 1-2
b. 6 f. 11-12 Reviews 1995-2004

Lectures and Conference

b. 1 f. 1-9 Rite of Spring Conference Material 1988
b. 6 f. 13-14 1978-2017
b. 7 f. 1

Exhibitions

b. 7 f. 2 2000-2018
b. 7 f. 3-5 Lincoln Center 1997-1999
b. 7 f. 6 "500 Years of Italian Dance" 2007
(14 computer files 15.25 megabytes)

Press

b. 7 f. 6 Articles About and Mentions of Garafola 2008-2015
b. 7 f. 7 Interviews with Garafola 2008-2015
b. 7 f. 8 Reviews of Garafola’s Work circa 1997-2009
b. 7 f. 9-10 Biographical 1999-2016

Awards, honors, and curriculum vitae.