



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Sharon Lowen papers

1970-2000s

(S) *MGZMD 459

Compiled by Heather Halliday, 2016.

Summary

Creator: Lowen, Sharon

Title: Sharon Lowen papers

Date: 1970-2000s

Size: 1.78 linear feet (4 boxes, 1 oversized folder)

Source: Donated by Sharon Lowen, 2010.

Abstract: The Sharon Lowen papers date from 1970 to the 2000s and document the career of Sharon Lowen, an American-born performer and choreographer of classical Indian dance. The collection includes newspaper and magazine clippings; programs and announcements of performances; posters; photographs; and essays on dance written by Lowen.

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 Use: The author/creator retains copyright of materials. For information on obtaining permission to publish, contact the Dance Division at dance@nypl.org.

Preferred citation: Sharon Lowen papers, (S) *MGZMD 459. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Compiled by Heather Halliday, 2016.

Creator History

Raised in Detroit, Michigan, Sharon Lowen trained in modern dance and ballet as a teen. In 1973, after graduating from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in humanities, fine arts, and Asian studies and a master's degree in dance, Lowen accepted a Fulbright scholarship to study Manipuri dance in India. In 1975, she received a renewal of her Fulbright award, which allowed her to remain in

India, expanding her studies to Chhau and Odissi dance. She has lived and worked in India ever since, achieving success as a foreign-born expert performer and choreographer of classical Indian dance. Throughout her career, she has periodically returned to the United States, performing classical Indian dance recitals around the country during these visits.

Scope and Content Note

The Sharon Lowen papers, which date from 1970 to the 2000s, are comprised primarily of programs from Lowen's dance recitals and news clippings discussing her performances. Clippings are taken from newspapers and magazines and include brief mentions of Lowen, longer articles, and reviews of her performances. The collection also includes biographical information; correspondence; transcriptions of interviews with Lowen; a few promotional photographs; posters and other promotional material; reference files; and Lowen's written essays on Indian dance. The majority of the collection is in English, with some Hindi news clippings also included.

Arrangement: Files are arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Key Terms

Subjects

Americans -- India

Dance -- India

Performing arts -- India

Occupations

Choreographers

Dancers

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings (information artifacts)

Programs (documents)

Geographic Names

India

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Biographical Material 1980s-1996
- b. 1 f. 2-8 Clippings 1970s-2000s, undated
- b. 2 f. 1 Correspondence 1978-2009
- b. 2 f. 2 Interviews 1978, undated
- b. 2 f. 3-7 Magazines 1980s-2000s
- b. 2 f. 8 Miscellaneous 1980-2000s
- b. 2 f. 9 Photographs [1980s-1990s]
 - o. 1 Posters 1975-1997
- b. 2 f. 10 Programs 1970s
- b. 3 f. 1-4 Programs 1980s-2000s
- b. 4 f. 1 Promotional Material 1980s-2000s
- b. 4 f. 2-7 Reference 1970s-1980s, undated
- b. 4 f. 8 Writings 1989-2000