



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Pina Bausch collection

1980-1999

(S) *MGZMD 491

Processed by Heather Halliday, 2018.

Summary

Creator: Bausch, Pina

Title: Pina Bausch collection

Date: 1980-1999

Size: .21 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Collection donated by Ann Daly.

Abstract: Pina Bausch (1940-2009) was a German choreographer and dancer known for her use of the expressionistic Tanztheater style, which combined elements of drama and modern dance. The Pina Bausch collection documents the later portion of her career, dating from 1980 to 1999, through programs, an interview, and files on an artist's residency and related United States tour.

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:

Audio recording unavailable pending digitization.

Preferred citation: Pina Bausch collection, (S) *MGZMD 491. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Language of the Material: Multiple languages Most programs are in German; other materials are in English.

Processing note: Processed by Heather Halliday, 2018.

Creator History

Philippine Bausch was born in Solingen, Germany in 1940. She first studied dance in the Solingen Children's Ballet. At age 14 Bausch began studying under Kurt Jooss at the Folkwang School in Essen, Germany. In 1958, she studied on scholarship at the Julliard school of Music in New York, where her teachers included Anthony Tudor, José Limón, Alfredo Corvino and Margret Craske. While in New York, she danced with the Metropolitan Opera and worked with choreographer Paul Taylor. In 1962 she returned to Germany and joined the Folkwang Ballet, where she later began choreographing and, by 1969, was named its director. In 1973 she moved to the Wuppertal Tanztheater.

Wuppertal remained Bausch's home base throughout her life, although her dance company traveled frequently to London's Sadler Wells Theater, Theatre de la Ville in Paris, and Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York. Her dances typically incorporated dream-like or absurdist elements, elaborate sets and portrayed dramatic emotions. She frequently collaborated with her life partner Rolf Borzik, a set and costume designer, until his death in 1980. Her notable works include a version of Igor Stravinsky's *Ballet Le Sacre du Printemps* (1975), performed on an earth-covered stage; *Café Müller* (1978), inspired by childhood memories of her parents' hotel and restaurant; and *Nelken (Carnations)* (1982), which included a field of real flowers and several live dogs.

Her distinctive style has been influential upon many choreographers, dancers, and other artists. Bausch's work appeared in Pedro Almodóvar's film *Talk to Her* and Wim Wenders made a documentary about her, *Pina – Dance, Otherwise We Are Lost*, in 2011.

Pina Bausch died in 2009 in Wuppertal, Germany.

Scope and Content Note

The Pina Bausch collection dates from 1980 to 1999 and documents the later portion of her career. The collection consists of 21 dance performance programs, primarily in German; a final report on Bausch's 1996 artist's residency at University of California, Los Angeles and a sponsorship summary of a related United States tour the same year; and a rare interview of Bausch conducted at the University of Texas, Austin, in 1999. The audio recording of the interview is unavailable pending digitization.

Key Terms

Occupations

Choreographers

Subjects

Modern dance

Women choreographers

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Programs (documents)

Names

Bausch, Pina

Daly, Ann, 1959-