



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Jean Rosenthal professional files

1954-1970 [bulk 1961-1969]

*T-Mss 1993-005

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2015

Summary

Creator: Rosenthal, Jean, 1912-1969

Title: Jean Rosenthal professional files

Date: 1954-1970 [bulk 1961-1969]

Size: 2.2 linear feet (5 boxes, 1 oversized folder)

Source: Donated by Dawn Chiang, 1993.

Abstract: Jean Rosenthal (1912-1969) was a stage lighting designer whose work included productions of the Martha Graham Dance Company, the Metropolitan Opera, the Dallas Civic Opera, the American Ballet Theatre, and Broadway shows such as *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (1962) and *I Do! I Do!* (1966). She founded a theatrical supply business, Theatre Production Service, in 1940. The Jean Rosenthal professional files date from 1954 to 1970 (bulk 1961 to 1969). The collection contains business records; clippings about Rosenthal and productions she worked on; programs from her productions; articles by Rosenthal, including drafts with handwritten corrections; and resumes and promotional photographs of Rosenthal. Business records pertain to Rosenthal's work as a designer, especially for the Martha Graham Company; her work as a theater consultant; and the Theater Production Service. The business records contain documents such as contracts, expense reports, production schedules, job applications, and related correspondence. Martha Graham Dance Company files contain memoranda and reports from the company's board of directors, in addition to materials directly concerning Rosenthal's employment. The business records include a file on a lighting design class that Rosenthal taught at the Lester Polakov Studio of Stage Design. The collection also contains design documents for the Martha Graham Dance Company at the American Dance Festival in 1967, consisting of two light plots, a dimmer schedule, and a lighting instrument schedule.

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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Processing note: Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2015

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Business records

Clippings (information artifacts)

Correspondence

Subjects

Stage lighting

Theater -- Production and direction

Occupations

Stage lighting designers

Names

Martha Graham Dance Company

Theatre Production Service

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Biographical Information and Photographs 1966-1970
- b. 1 f. 2-21 Articles by Rosenthal, Clippings, and Programs 1955-1968
- b. 2 f. 1-56 Clippings and Programs 1954-1969
Business Records and Correspondence
- b. 3 f. 1-10 1959-1968
- b. 4 f. 1-15 1962-1968
- b. 5 f. 1-14 Martha Graham Company 1961-1969
Includes light design documents for the American Dance Festival.
- o. 1 Light Plots for American Dance Festival 1967