

Guide to the Lucy Phelps Lampkin Papers, 1920-1967 and undated

(S)*MGZMD 208

Jerome Robbins Dance Division

**The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
New York, New York**

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	The Lucy Phelps Lampkin Papers
Collection ID:	(S)*MGZMD 208
Creator:	Lampkin, Lucy Phelps
Extent:	2 linear feet (4 boxes)
Repository:	Jerome Robbins Dance Division. The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Abstract: The Lucy Phelps Lampkin Papers contains newspaper articles, programs, letters, journals, photographs and a scrapbook relating to Ms Lampkin's career as a teacher in Athens, Georgia, where she directed the Lucy Lampkin School of the Dance and Related Arts, and to her year as director of the Dance Department, Sullins College, Bristol, Virginia (1938-1939). This collection includes material relating to Lucile Marsh and Ruth St. Denis.

Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photocopying will apply. Advance notice may be required.

Publication Rights

For permission to publish, contact the Curator, Jerome Robbins Dance Division.

Preferred Citation

The Lucy Phelps Lampkin Papers, (S)*MGZMD 208, Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

Custodial History

The Lucy Phelps Lampkin Papers were donated to the Jerome Robbins Dance Division in 1984 by Virginia Christ-Janer.

Processing Information

The collection was processed and cataloged in 2007.

Biographical Note

Born October 6, 1903 in Athens, Georgia, Lucy Phelps Lampkin was educated there in a private elementary school, Lucy Cobb School (1909-1917) and in public high school (1917-1921). She attended Mary Baldwin College in Staunton, Virginia for two years (1923-1924) and then transferred to Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina in order to study piano (1923-1924). She received her A.B. degree from the University of Georgia in 1928. From 1928-1930 she studied dance in New York. When she returned to Athens in 1928 she established her own teaching studio.

Lucy Phelps Lampkin made an intensive study of all the art systems of the Dance at their source, having studied with Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Michel Fokine, Mary Wigman (Wigman Central Institute, Dresden) and with Elizabeth Duncan, sister of Isadora, in Europe. Further study included work at Columbia and New York University, as well as with Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman, Irma Duncan, Lucile and Agnes Marsh, Angel Cansino, and Ella Daganova. She also studied Dalcroze Eurhythmics, piano, dramatic art, poetry, costume design and history of art.

Ms. Lampkin also researched the health and physical aspects of dance by work in Corrective Gymnastics at Central School of Hygiene and Physical Education, New York City, and by case study and observation at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. She did extensive research in sculpture and painting in relation to dance at a number of museums in America and in Europe.

Lucy Lampkin has appeared as soloist with Lucile Marsh, who she assisted for three summer sessions at the University of Georgia, Denishawn House, NYC, and as a guest-artist of the Physical Therapy Department, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota.

After closing her studio in 1968, she retired from active teaching.

Source: *The Dance in Art* pamphlet found in scrapbook (Box 3, Folder 1)

Scope and Content Note

The Lucy Phelps Lampkin Papers contain newspaper articles, programs, letters, journals, photographs and a scrapbook relating to her career as a teacher in Athens, Georgia, where she directed the Lucy Lampkin School of the Dance and Related Arts, and to her year as director of the Dance Department, Sullins College, Bristol, Virginia (1938-1939). This collection includes material relating to Lucile Marsh and Ruth St. Denis.

With the exception of a high school report card and some correspondence, very little personal and family papers exist in this collection.

Choreography, undated

Box 1

- F. 1 Children 6-8 notes (Photograph and clippings included)
- F. 2 Dance notebook
- F. 3 *Height*, a dance poem
- F. 4 General
- F. 5 Clippings, 1934, 1945 and undated
Correspondence, 1936-1967 and undated
- F. 6 A-N, 1936-1964 and undated
- F. 7 P-W and unidentified, 1937-1967 and undated
Dancer files, 1926-1945 and undated (Choreographies, theories, interviews and biographies)
Marsh, Lucile, 1926-1944 and undated
Choreography notes, 1926-1944 and undated (Some attributed to Lucille and Agnes Marsh)
- F. 8-10
- F. 11 Clippings, 1931-1944 and undated
- F. 12 Pamphlets and programs, 1928-1939 and undated
Teaching materials, 1931-1943 and undated
- F. 13 Syllabus, 1931
- F. 14 General, 1943 and undated
Writings, 1931-1944 and undated (Edmund Jameson, Kathryn J. Lewis, Mary L. Lewis and Mary Lewis appear to be aliases, as printed names are crossed out and Lucile Marsh's handwritten name placed below)

Box 2

- F. 1 1931-1934
- F. 2 1935-1944
- F. 3 Undated
- F. 4 General, 1936 and undated
- F. 5 Shawn, Ted, undated (Program of Shawn student, Barton Mumaw, included)
St. Denis, Ruth, 1933-1945 and undated
- F. 6 Choreography notes, undated
- F. 7 Clippings, 1935, 1945 and undated
- F. 8 Pamphlets and programs, 1934 and undated
Writings, 1933-1937 and undated
- F. 9 Notes from journals, 1934 and undated
- F. 10 Published articles, 1936 and undated
- F. 11 General, 1933-1937 and undated (2 letters included)
Photographs, undated
- F. 12 Lampkin, Lucy
- F. 13-14 Lucy Lampkin School of the Dance
- F. 15-16 Sullins College
- F. 17 General

- F. 18 Programs, 1935-1950 and undated
F. 19 Scores, undated
- Box 3**
- F. 1 Scrapbook, 1931-1950 and undated (Programs, clippings, and letters—2 letters from Ruth St Denis and one from Ted Shawn included)
Subject files, 1929-1960 and undated
Ballroom dancing, 1933-1938 and undated
F. 2 Clippings, 1933-1938 and undated
F. 3 General, undated
Costumes, 1930-1960 and undated
F. 4 Patterns, undated
F. 5 General, 1930, 1960 and undated
Folk dance, 1929-1955 and undated
F. 6 Choreography, undated
F. 7 Clippings, 1930-1941 and undated
F. 8 *Folk Dancer* magazine, 1946-1948
F. 9 General, 1929-1955 and undated
Health, 1933 and undated (Dr Scholl's Pedo-Graph prints used for foot trouble analysis and shoe fitting included with foot articles—possibly Lampkin's imprints)
F. 10 Painting and sculpture photographs, 1935 and undated (Some material used for Lampkin's book *The Dance in Art*)
F. 11 Paintings, undated (Includes original folder label)
Sculptures, 1935 and undated
F. 12-14 Photographs, undated
F. 15 Post cards, undated
- Box 4**
- F. 1-2 Prints and clippings, 1935 and undated
Personalities, 1930-1943 and undated (Ginger Rogers / Fred Astaire and Thalia Mara / Arthur Mahoney)
F. 3
F. 4 General, 1937 and undated
Teaching Material, 1942-1963 and undated
Ballet, undated
Academic Ballet Technique, undated
F. 5 Grade II
F. 6 Grade III
F. 7 General, undated
F. 8 Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, 1962-1963 and undated
F. 9 Tap dance, undated
F. 10 General, 1942, 1955 and undated
Writings, 1934-1944 and undated
F. 11 Dalcroze Eurhythmics notes, undated

