



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Andrew Wentink papers

1966-1981

(S) *MGZMD 540

Processed by Emily P. Dunne in 2021.

Summary

Creator: Wentink, Andrew Mark

Title: Andrew Wentink papers

Date: 1966-1981

Size: 2.83 linear feet (4 boxes)

Source: These papers were created while Wentink was an employee of the New York Public Library.

Abstract: Andrew Mark Wentink (1948-) was an archivist and researcher for the New York Public Library Jerome Robbins Dance Division in the 1970s. His office files contain research for processing archives and his writing projects. During his tenure as an archivist, Wentink processed the archives of Doris Humphrey and Ruth Page. Wentink also wrote and published several books and articles on dance, specifically on ballet and Humphrey's and Page's careers.

Preferred citation: Andrew Wentink papers, (S) *MGZMD 540. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Emily P. Dunne in 2021.

Related Materials:

Doris Humphrey collection, 1811-1958.

Creator History

Andrew Mark Wentink (1948 -) is a dance historian and writer. After graduating from Middlebury College, he received his Master's in Library Science from Columbia University. He began working as Manuscript Archivist at the Jerome Robbins Dance Division of The New York Public Library in the 1970s.

Wentink arranged and wrote the register, or finding aid, for two significant dance collections: the Doris Humphrey collection and the Ruth Page collection. Through his arrangement, Wentink also conducted extensive research on Humphrey and Page, publishing several books and articles on their careers. These publications include *The Doris Humphrey collection: an introduction and guide*, *The Ruth Page collection: an introduction and guide to manuscript materials through 1970*, and several articles for dance magazines about their career and findings while processing their papers.

Scope and Content Note

The Wentink collection dates from 1966 to 1981. Most items are dated and identified. The collection comprises two boxes of paper materials created during his time working as an archivist at the New York Public Library.

Materials related to Wentink's publishing include research, interviews with dancers, reproductions of photographs, notes, and drafts. Most of Wentink's publishing is related to the archives that he stewarded at the New York Public Library, but also include some writing on dancing for the choreographer, George Balanchine and the 50th anniversary of the Rockettes. The drafts of writing sent to Wentink are related to dance, particularly ballet in Poland, and an outline for a dance encyclopedia and background on the theatre critic H. T. Parker.

The Doris Humphrey collection has much of its planning documentation, including detailed planning papers that describe the collection from the subseries level, and at times the folder level. There is an inventory of Humphrey's correspondence from 1891 to 1958, also included in the register. The register functions as a very detailed finding aid. It provides scope and content notes, biographical information, a detailed chronology of events from Humphrey's correspondence, a description of the series and its organization, a folder list, and an index of all people, titles, and subjects mentioned in the collection. Besides the Humphrey collection, the only other research in this grouping is related to dance notation. There are no materials related to the Ruth Page collection.

A large portion of the collection consists of subject indexes from other books about dance and ballet. These were then used as reference information for an extensive set of alphabetized index cards with dance terminology, performances, and artists. It is unclear if this work was for general reference or research for a book titled *Balletomania: a quizzical potpourri of ballet facts, stars, trivia, and lore*. *Balletomania* was published in 1981 and features, as the title suggests, quizzes and answers to assorted ballet trivia. Subject cards are in alphabetical order but subdivided by size. Not all cards have added information beyond the subject heading.

Key Terms

Occupations

Archivists.

Subjects

Dance -- History -- 20th century

Dance -- Research

Names

Humphrey, Doris, 1895-1958

Page, Ruth, 1899-1991

Wentink, Andrew Mark

Container List

Publishing by Wentink 1975-1981

- b. 1 f. 1 *Dancing for Balanchine -- Interview Transcripts* 1975
- b. 1 f. 2 *Dancing for Balanchine, Notes and Draft* 1975
- b. 1 f. 3 Magazine and Newspaper Articles 1976-1977
- b. 1 f. 4 *Balletomania, Key Terms A-C* 1980
- b. 1 f. 5 *Balletomania, Photographs* 1980
- b. 1 f. 6 The Rockettes, Research and Drafts 1980-1981
- b. 1 f. 7 *The Steadfast Tin Soldier* 1981

Other's Publications 1966-1979

- b. 1 f. 8-9 *Draft The Romantic Ballet in Warsaw, Janina Pude_ek* 1966
- b. 1 f. 10 *Don McDonagh, drafts - Stories of Modern Dance and Encyclopedia of Dance* 1979
- b. 1 f. 11 *Draft Pleasure Remembered: The Dance Reviews of H.T. Parker, Olive Holmes* 1979
- b. 2 f. 1 Other Dance Publications 1979

Archival Work 1970s

- b. 2 f. 2-6 Doris Humphrey Collection 1973
- b. 2 f. 7 Dance Notation Research 1973
- b. 2 f. 8 Other Professional Papers 1970s

Subject indexes 1970s

- b. 2 f. 9-10 Other Examples 1970s
- b. 2 f. 11 Notes 1970s
 - b. 3 Glossary for Untitled Publication 1970s
 - b. 3-4 Dance Subject Index 1970s