



The New York Public Library  
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

**Carmelita Maracci photographs**

1940s-1950s

\*MGZEB 21-0021

Processed by Heather Lember in 2021.

## Summary

**Creator:** Maracci, Carmelita, 1911-1987

**Title:** Carmelita Maracci photographs

**Date:** 1940s-1950s

**Size:** 0.5 linear feet (2 boxes)

**Source:** Purchased in 1991.

**Abstract:** Carmelita Maracci (1911-1987) was a dancer, choreographer, and teacher best known for incorporating Spanish techniques into her ballet performances. The Carmelita Maracci photographs comprise prints by Marcus Blechman that include both portraits and stills from *The Nightingale* and *the Maiden*.

**Preferred citation:** Carmelita Maracci photographs, \*MGZEB 21-0021. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Processed by Heather Lember in 2021.

**Separated Materials:**

Photographs separated from the Carmelita Maracci papers, Jerome Robbins Dance Division, New York Public Library (S) \*MGZMD 73.

## Creator History

Carmelita Maracci was born in Nevada in 1911 and raised in Fresno, California, where she began studying dance as a child. She performed for the first time as a soloist in 1928, and soon after began experimenting with her own choreography, often blending classical ballet with Spanish dance styles. She debuted a program of her own works in 1930, and continued to tour and perform for the next decade. Beginning in the 1950s, Maracci began to focus more on teaching, where she worked with such dancers as William Carter, Geraldine Chaplin, Agnes de Mille, Cynthia Gregory, Allegra Kent,

Bella Lewitsky, Julie Newmar, Jerome Robbins, Janice Rule, Donald Saddler, and Christine Sarry. Carmelita Maracci died in Los Angeles on July 26, 1987.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The collection contains twenty-three prints of Carmelita Maracci photographed by Marcus Blechman. Nine of the images are portraits, and fourteen are stills of Maracci performing her dance *The Nightingale and the Maiden*. None of the photographs are dated, and there is no additional identifying information about the images. Box 2, folder 1 contains a short note from Marcus Blechman wishing Maracci a happy new year.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

Ballet dancers  
Dance -- Photographs  
Dancers -- 20th century

### **Occupations**

Dancers.

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Photographs

### **Names**

Blechman, Marcus  
Maracci, Carmelita, 1911-1987

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1-9 Portraits
- b. 2 f. 1-14 *The Nightingale and the Maiden*