



## The New York Public Library Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

### **Tom Kerrigan papers**

1935-1993 [bulk 1977-1993]

(S) \*MGZMD 543

Processed by Emily P. Dunne in 2021.

### **Summary**

**Creator:** Kerrigan, Tom

**Title:** Tom Kerrigan papers

**Date:** 1935-1993 [bulk 1977-1993]

**Size:** 3.71 linear feet (10 boxes)

**Source:** Unknown

**Abstract:** Tom Kerrigan (1944-1994) was a press agent for performing artists. The collection includes Kerrigan's press releases and the photographs, news clippings, and periodicals he would collect in relation to his clients.

**Preferred citation:** Tom Kerrigan papers, (S) \*MGZMD 543. 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.

### **Creator History**

Tom Kerrigan was a publicist based in New York City, with many performing arts and dance clients. Born in Wisconsin in 1944, Kerrigan attended the University of Massachusetts and then Yale University, where he studied Theater Administration. From 1968 to 1972, Kerrigan was a public affairs associate and issued press releases for the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

The Martha Graham Dance Company experienced several milestone events during Kerrigan's tenure as publicist, including several new ballets and compositions by Graham, the 50th anniversary of the company in 1975, Graham's death in 1991, and Graham's centennial in 1993. Several performances, galas, and fundraisers were held in honor of these events and to ensure the legacy of Graham's choreography towards the end of her life. Graham continued working on new choreography until she died in 1991. The company continued with programs that combined recent and revival performances of Graham's work.

Gian Carlo Menotti was an Italian composer and founder of the *Spoletto Festival* in the United States. Founded in 1977, Menotti wanted to establish an American counterpart to the Italian festival of the same name. Charleston, South Carolina was chosen as the permanent location for the festival due to its rich architecture appropriate for performance venues while also maintaining a sense of intimacy. Each summer, the festival hosts over 150 events, including dance, theatre, music, and artwork.

Kerrigan died at the age of 50 in 1994.

## Scope and Content Note

The Tom Kerrigan papers date from 1935 to 1994. However, the bulk of materials are from 1977 to 1994. The majority of the papers are press clippings, official press releases, some correspondence between Kerrigan and major news outlets, as well as photographs and color transparencies for press distribution. Some materials are also present related to the *Bolshoi Opera* staged at the Metropolitan Opera in 1990 and the Alvin Ailey Dance Company's 1990 and 1991 seasons. The collection also includes Kerrigan's chalk illustration and set design for the play *The Adding Machine* created in 1965.

The Martha Graham Dance Company materials include copies of early press about Graham from the 1930s and 1940s that were featured in the press kits for the company's 50th-anniversary production, *In Search of the Magic Gesture, the Meaning of Movement*.

Many of the prints for the *Spoletto Festival* were recycled for press distribution and often have multiple incorrect dates because they were re-captioned for press distribution for the annual festival.

The collection is arranged into four series, Martha Graham Dance Collection, *Spoletto Festival*, Other Artist Representation, and Set Design.

**Arrangement:** For both the Martha Graham Dance Company and the *Spoletto Festival*, programs and schedules are organized chronologically.

## Key Terms

### Subjects

Art festivals  
Modern dance -- United States  
Press agents  
Women choreographers -- United States -- 20th century

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings (information artifacts)  
Photographs

### Occupations

Publicists.

### Names

Graham, Martha  
Kerrigan, Tom

Menotti, Gian Carlo, 1911-2007  
Martha Graham Dance Company  
Spoleto Festival U.S.A.

## Container List

- Martha Graham Dance Company 1935-1993
  - b. 1 f. 1 Press Releases (For 1993 Centennial) 1935-1944
  - b. 1 f. 2-4 Press Releases & Clippings 1974-1993
  - b. 1 f. 5 50th Anniversary Benefit 1975
  - b. 1 f. 6-7 *In Search of the Magic Gesture, the Meaning of Movement* 1975, 1980
  - b. 1 f. 8 Benefits and Galas 1982-1992
  - b. 1 f. 9 Performance Schedule 1992-1993
  - Photographs 1970s-1990s [bulk 1991-1992]
    - b. 2 f. 1 *Acts of Light* 1992
    - b. 2 f. 2 *Appalachian Spring* 1991
    - b. 2 f. 3 *Cave of the Heart* 1992
    - b. 2 f. 4 *Clytemnestra* 1992
    - b. 2 f. 5 *Diversion of Angels* 1990s
    - b. 2 f. 6 *Embattled Garden* 1990s
    - b. 2 f. 7 *Errand Into the Maze* 1990s
    - b. 2 f. 8 *Eyes of the Goddess, The* 1991-1992
    - b. 2 f. 9 *...ING* 1992
    - b. 2 f. 10 *Lamentation* 1990s
    - b. 2 f. 11 *Letter to the World* 1990s
    - b. 2 f. 12 *Maple Leaf Rag* 1990s
    - b. 2 f. 13 *Night Journey* 1992
    - b. 2 f. 14 *El Penitente* 1991
    - b. 2 f. 15 *Primitive Mysteries* 1991
    - b. 2 f. 16 *The Rite of Spring* 1991
    - b. 2 f. 17 *Salem Shore* 1992
    - b. 2 f. 18 *Seraphic Dialogue* 1991
    - b. 2 f. 19 Portraits of Graham 1970s-1990s
    - b. 2 f. 20 Negatives & Slides 1970s
- Spoletto Festival, Menotti, Gian Carlo 1958-1993
  - b. 2 f. 21 *Maria Golobin, Program and Script* 1958
  - b. 2 f. 22-23 Press Clippings 1986-1993
  - b. 3 f. 1-3
    - b. 3 f. 4 Annual Program 1977-1991
    - b. 3 f. 5-7 Press Releases and Program 1988-1993
    - b. 4
  - b. 5 f. 1-2
    - b. 5 f. 3 Planning 1993
    - b. 5 f. 4 Long-Range Plan 1989-1996
    - b. 5 f. 5 Long-Range Plan 1991-1996
    - b. 5 f. 6 Board Dispute 1991
    - b. 5 f. 7 Financial Statements 1991

Spoletto Festival, Menotti, Gian Carlo (cont.)

- b. 5 f. 8 Board and Background 1992
- Performances and Installations 1990-1992
- b. 5 f. 9 *Elektra* 1990
- b. 5 f. 10 *Places With A Past* 1991
- b. 6 f. 1 *Visit, The* 1991
- b. 6 f. 2 *Duca D'Alba, Il* 1992
- b. 9 f. 10 *Birthday of the Infanta* 1993
- Photographs 1977-1993
- b. 6 f. 3-8 General 1977-1992
- b. 9
- b. 9 f. 7-9
- b. 7 f. 1 *Road to Mecca, The* 1987
- b. 7 f. 2 *Salome* 1987
- b. 7 f. 3 *Platée* 1987
- b. 9 f. 2
- b. 9 f. 3 Miracolo d'Amore 1988
- b. 9 f. 4 *Montezuma* 1988
- b. 7 f. 4 *Marriage of Figaro, The* 1989
- b. 7 f. 10
- b. 9 f. 6
- b. 7 f. 5 *Ballets de Monte-Carlo, Les* 1992
- b. 7 f. 6 *Duca d'Alba, Il* 1992
- b. 7 f. 7 *Elektra* 1992
- b. 7 f. 8 *Gigli Concert, The* 1992
- b. 7 f. 9 Portraits, Gian Carlo Menotti & Directors 1988-1993
- b. 7 f. 11-12 Transparencies & Slides 1989-1993
- b. 8 f. 1
- b. 9 f. 5 *Rusalka* 1988
- Other Artist Representation 1989-1991
- b. 8 f. 2 Alvin Ailey, Dance Seasons 1989-1990
- b. 8 f. 3-4 Publicity Packages 1990-1991
- b. 8 f. 5 Headshots 1990-1991
- b. 8 f. 6 Bolshoi Opera Programs 1991
- b. 8 f. 7 *Bolshoi Opera Press* 1990-1991
- b. 10 *Adding Machine, The, Set Design* 1965