



The New York Public Library  
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

**Paul B. Goode American Ballet Theatre photographs**

1980-1990

\*MGZEB 21-0015

Processed by Emily P. Dunne in 2021.

## Summary

**Photographer:** Goode, Paul B.

**Title:** Paul B. Goode American Ballet Theatre photographs

**Date:** 1980-1990

**Size:** 3.33 linear feet (8 boxes)

**Source:** Gift of Paul B. Goode and Alan Olshan in June 1994.

**Abstract:** Paul B. Goode is a New York City based photographer who has been photographing dance since 1976. Goode was hired to photograph Mikhail Baryshnikov's official director's portrait for the American Ballet Theatre, and eventually the company's performances from the 1980s until 1990. During this time, Baryshnikov restaged several classical ballets and new productions, including performances by Twyla Tharp and Agnes De Mille.

**Preferred citation:** Paul B. Goode American Ballet Theatre photographs, \*MGZEB 21-0015. 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

Paul B. Goode is a photographer based in New York City. Much of Goode's photography has been documenting dance and making intimate portraits of dancers in motion. In 1980, Goode was contacted by the assistant development director at the American Ballet Theater, Alan Olshan, to take the official director's portrait of Mikhail Baryshnikov. This led to Goode photographing the American Ballet Theatre for almost ten years, the entire tenure of Baryshnikov's role as the artistic director. Goode was granted access to rehearsals, performances, backstage, and eventually toured with the company. Goode continues to photograph dance and has worked with Bill T. Jones, the Bolshoi Opera and Ballet, Trisha Brown, and more. Goode's work also explores portraits of bodybuilders, pregnant women, Coney Island cigarette butts, and more.

The American Ballet Theatre is a New York City based dance company founded in 1939 dedicated to preserving the legacy of classical dance and creating new performances for audiences worldwide.

This collection covers dance performances and rehearsals from the 1980s to 1990, during which time Mikhail Baryshnikov was the Artistic Director. The performances documented include *Swan Lake*, several dances with choreography by Agnes De Mille, Antony Tudor's ballets, a restaging of *Gaité Parisienne*, and performances by Twyla Tharp.

## Scope and Content Note

This collection is comprised of contact sheets of dance performances and rehearsals of the American Ballet Theatre from the 1980s to 1990. The photographs were taken by Paul B. Goode and cover the tenure of Mikhail Baryshnikov as the Artistic Director of the company. The performances documented include *Swan Lake*, several dances with choreography by Agnes De Mille, Anthony Tudor's ballets, and a restaging of *Gaité Parisienne*, and performances by Twyla Tharp. The photographs provide an intensive visual reflection of the theatre's activities and Baryshnikov's work during this time, and Goode's development of his personal style of photographing intimate portraits of dancers.

The photographer has numbered the contact sheets, so the temporal order of the performance can be inferred by the order Goode photographed the dancers.

The American Ballet Theatre photographs are one grouping arranged chronologically with the choreographer noted, when known.

## Key Terms

### Occupations

Art directors.  
Dancers.  
Photographers.

### Subjects

Ballet companies -- Photographs  
Choreographers -- United States -- 20th century  
Dance -- Photographs

### Names

Balanchine, George  
Baryshnikov, Mikhail, 1948-  
De Mille, Agnes  
Goode, Paul B.  
Tharp, Twyla  
American Ballet Theatre

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 *The Nutcracker* -- Baryshnikov, Mikhail 1980s
- b. 1 f. 2 *Prodigal Son* -- Balanchine, George 1980s
- b. 1 f. 3 Rehearsals -- Tudor, Anthony 1980s  
General rehearsal, 1988 Gala and *Jardin aux Lilas*.
- b. 1 f. 4 *Giselle* -- Baryshnikov, Mikhail 1985
- b. 1 f. 5 *Romeo and Juliet* -- MacMillan, Kenneth 1985
- b. 2 f. 1 *Francesca da Rimini* -- Taras, John 1986
- b. 2 f. 2 *Requiem* -- MacMillan, Kenneth 1986
- b. 2 f. 3-4 *Bruch Violin Concerto #1* -- Tippet, Clark 1989
- b. 2 f. 5 *Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes* -- Morris, Mark 1988
- b. 2 f. 6 *Enough Said* -- Tippet, Clark 1988
- b. 3 f. 1-2 *Gaîté Parisienne*, Rehearsals -- Massine, Leonide 1988
- b. 3 f. 3-4 *Gaîté Parisienne* -- Massine, Leonide 1988
- b. 3 f. 5 Gala Performance -- Tudor, Anthony 1988
- b. 4 f. 1
- b. 4 f. 2-3 *The Informer* -- De Mille, Agnes 1988
- b. 4 f. 4 *Murder* -- Gordon, David 1988
- b. 4 f. 5 *The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA)* -- Tippet, Clark 1988
- b. 4 f. 6-7 *Stravinsky Violin Concerto* -- Balanchine, George 1988
- b. 5 f. 1 Formally titled *Ballet Imperial*.
- b. 5 f. 2-6 *Swan Lake* -- Baryshnikov, Mikhail 1989
- b. 6
- b. 7 f. 2-4 50th Anniversary Gala 1990
- b. 7 f. 5 *Birthday Offering* -- Ashton, Frederick 1990
- b. 7 f. 6 *Brief Fling* -- Tharp, Twyla 1990
- b. 7 f. 7 *Jardin aux Lilas* -- Tudor, Anthony 1990
- b. 8 f. 1 *La Sylphide* -- Lander, Harold 1990
- b. 8 f. 2 *Les Sylphides* -- Fokin, Mikhail 1990
- b. 8 f. 3 *Nine Sinatra Songs* -- Tharp, Twyla 1990
- b. 8 f. 4 *Push Comes to Shove* -- Tharp, Twyla 1990
- b. 8 f. 5 Rehearsals -- Tharp, Twyla 1990  
Rehearsals for *Brief Fling*, *Nine Sinatra Songs*, and *Push Comes to Shove*.
- b. 8 f. 6 *Rodeo* -- De Mille, Agnes 1990
- b. 8 f. 7 Unidentified Productions 1980s-1990
- b. 8 f. 8 Portraits 1980s-1990