



# The New York Public Library Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

## **International Dance Council records**

1970-1989

(S) \*MGZMD 545

Processed by Emily P. Dunne in 2021

### **Summary**

**Creator:** International Dance Council

**Title:** International Dance Council records

**Date:** 1970-1989

**Size:** 2.92 linear feet (7 boxes)

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

**Abstract:** The International Dance Council was the United-States based subcommittee of the Conseil International de la Danse, under the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The council was largely organized by the New York Public Library's Dance Division Curator, Genevieve Oswald in the 1970s but dissolved in the early 1980s. The collection includes correspondence with membership, conference organization, and research into other International Dance organizations.

### **Conditions Governing Access:**

Inquiries regarding audio and moving image materials in the collection may be directed to the Jerome Robbins Dance Division ([dance@nypl.org](mailto:dance@nypl.org)). Audio and moving image materials will be subject to preservation assessment and migration prior to access.

**Preferred citation:** International Dance Council records, (S) \*MGZMD 545. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

**Language of the Material:** English The majority of material is in English, with some material in French and Spanish.

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

### **Creator History**

Conseil International de la Danse (CID) is an organization dedicated to all dance forms, with members

from around the world. The organization was founded in 1973 within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) headquarters in Paris, where it is currently based. The committee is dedicated to all forms and approaches of dance, and does not discriminate based on a dancer's race, gender, religion or social status.

The Conseil International de la Danse is open to membership from dancers and critics, historians, choreographers, and anyone affiliated with the dance world. Local sections can also organize events within their city related to dance and carry out the CID worldwide programming.

The American chapter of the Conseil International de la Danse, or the International Dance Council (IDC) first convened in November 1978 during the First International Choreographers' Conference held in New York City. However, as early as 1973, Genevieve Oswald, curator of the Dance Division of the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, recognized the need for an international dance organization in the United States. Working with the Conseil International de la Danse, Oswald and Bengt Häger, director of the Film Museum in Stockholm, organized the International Festival of Filmatic Dance. This event coincided with the Conseil International de la Danse's annual meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, on June 1, 1975. With this momentum, Oswald was determined to form an official American chapter of the Conseil International de la Danse in the United States.

Once officially recognized by the Conseil in 1978, the American subcommittee established its executive board, with Genevieve Oswald elected as Chairman. The chapter continued to organize conferences and build its membership, reaching out to dance professionals in the United States. The International Dance Council's aims included promoting international dance, exchanging ideas with other international sections and organizing an annual conference in the United States. The International Dance Council sent the transcription of meetings to the United Nations for their information and use. Members included: Alvin Ailey, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Robert Joffrey, Charles Weidman, and more.

Some of the conferences and events hosted by the International Dance Council were the *Congress on American Dance* in 1980 and the *International Dance and Video Festival* in 1981. Plans for a conference in 1982, *Money For The Dance... What Next?*, were made, but interest in attendance was low and the event was cancelled. This was the last conference organized by Oswald and the Council, and the group dissolved shortly thereafter.

## Scope and Content Note

This collection is comprised of documents related to the formation, organization and activities of the International Dance Council. This includes contemporaneous material from their parent organization, the Conseil International de la Danse, such as executive committee minutes and by-laws. The materials date from 1970 until 1982. The majority of the materials created by the International Dance Council pertain to the annual conferences. There is some overlap with materials related to Genevieve Oswald's work as the curator of the New York Public Library's Dance Division.

The collection contains 4 audio tapes of a recording of the 1980 *Congress on American Dance* proceedings, as well as a typed transcription of the recording.

The records are arranged in six groupings: Foundation, Executive and Administrative, Financial, Membership, Conferences, and Other International Dance Organizations

**Arrangement:** Each grouping is arranged chronologically except membership renewals, which is arranged alphabetically by last name.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

Choreographers  
Dance -- Congresses  
Dance -- Research  
Dance in motion pictures, television, etc.

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Conference papers and proceedings  
Minutes (records)  
Sound recordings

### **Occupations**

Dancers.

### **Names**

Häger, Bengt, 1916-2011  
Oswald, Genevieve  
International Dance Council  
Unesco

## Container List

### Foundation

- b. 1 f. 1 History 1970-1981
- b. 1 f. 2 Susana Frugone speech 1973 November 12
- b. 1 f. 3 Festival for Filmatic Dance, Sweden 1975
- Conseil International de la Danse  
The majority of this material is in French.
- b. 1 f. 4 Correspondence 1975
- b. 1 f. 5 Executive Committee 1973-1981
- b. 1 f. 6 By-Laws 1973-1979
- b. 1 f. 7 General Assembly 1976-1978

### Executive and Administrative

- b. 1 f. 8 Incorporation 1977-1979
- b. 1 f. 9 Aims 1970s
- b. 1 f. 10 By-Laws 1979-1982
- b. 1 f. 11 Executive Board Meeting Minutes 1980-1983
- b. 2 f. 1 General Correspondence 1975-1982
- b. 2 f. 2 Correspondence, Bengt Häger 1977-1982
- b. 2 f. 3 Board Structure 1975-1981
- b. 2 f. 4 Letterhead Template 1970s-1980s

### Financial

- b. 2 f. 5 Tax Forms 1979-1981
- b. 2 f. 6 Treasurers Report 1979-1982
- b. 2 f. 7 Budgets 1973-1982  
Includes research of Conseil International de la Danse budgets from 1973 to 1979.

### Membership

- b. 2 f. 8 Potential Members 1980-1983
- b. 2 f. 9 Invitation 1977-1981
- b. 2 f. 10 Mailing List 1980-1981
- b. 2 f. 11-12 Renewals 1981
- b. 3 f. 1-2

### Correspondence

- b. 3 f. 3 Newsletter 1978-1982
- b. 3 f. 4 Individuals 1978-1980
- b. 3 f. 5 Dues 1979-1982
- b. 3 f. 6-7 Honorary Members 1975-1981

### Fundraising

- b. 3 f. 8 Potential Grant Funding 1977-1981
- b. 3 f. 9 Grant Requests 1978-1981
- b. 4 f. 1-2

### Conferences

*International Choreographers Conference*

Conferences (cont.)

International Choreographers Conference (cont.)

- b. 4 f. 3 Planning 1977-1978
- b. 4 f. 4 Correspondence 1978
- b. 4 f. 5 Invitation 1978
- b. 4 f. 6 Choreographers' Contract 1977-1978
- b. 4 f. 7 Participants 1978
- b. 4 f. 8 Program and Schedule 1978
- b. 4 f. 9 Films 1978
- b. 4 f. 10 Robert Joffrey's Notes 1978
- b. 4 f. 11-12 Report to Congress 1978
- b. 4 f. 13 Financial 1978
- b. 4 f. 14 *United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization --  
International Year of Disabled Persons 1979*

*Congress on American Dance*

- b. 4 f. 15 Planning 1979-1980
- b. 4 f. 16 Invitation 1980
- b. 4 f. 17 Thank You Letters 1978
- b. 5 f. 1 Registration 1980
- b. 5 f. 2 Participants 1980
- b. 5 f. 3 Program 1980 April 17
- b. 5 f. 4 Press 1980
- b. 5 f. 5 Executive Committee Recommendations 1980
- b. 5 f. 6 Speakers Comments 1980

Conference Tapes 1980

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- b. 5 f. 7 Tape Notes 1980 April 17
- b. 5 f. 8 Conference Report and Transcript 1980 April 17
- b. 5 f. 9 Photographs 1980
- b. 5 f. 10 Negatives 1980

*International Dance Film and Videotape Festival*

- b. 5 f. 11 National Endowment for the Arts Grant Proposal 1981
- b. 5 f. 12 Planning 1981
- b. 5 f. 13 Funding and Budget 1981
- b. 5 f. 14 Correspondence 1980-1981
- b. 5 f. 15 Invitation 1981
- b. 5 f. 16 Participants 1981
- b. 5 f. 17 Program 1981 June
- b. 6 f. 1 Pamphlet 1981 June
- b. 6 f. 2 Catalog 1981
- b. 6 f. 3 Donald Sadler Transcript 1981 June

*Money For The Dance... What Next?*

- b. 6 f. 4 Press Releases 1981-1982

Conferences (cont.)

Money For The Dance... What Next? (cont.)

b. 6 f. 5 Participants 1982

b. 6 f. 6 Planning 1982

Conseil International de la Danse

b. 6 f. 7 Festivals 1973-1980

b. 6 f. 8-10 London 1980

b. 7 f. 1 Togo 1980

b. 7 f. 2 Argentina 1980

b. 7 f. 3 Brazil 1980

b. 7 f. 4 Uruguay 1980

b. 7 f. 5 Stockholm 1980

Other International Dance Organizations

b. 7 f. 6 Leaflet Ideas 1970s-1980

b. 7 f. 7 Individuals and Companies 1970s-1980s

b. 7 f. 8 The Dance Collection of the New York Public Library 1970-1975

b. 7 f. 9 Dance Notation Bureau 1972-1980

b. 7 f. 10 Dictionary Catalog of the Dance Collection Subscribers 1974

b. 7 f. 11 Bat-Dor Dance Company of Israel 1978-1979

b. 7 f. 12 *International Seminar on the Bible in Dance* 1979

b. 7 f. 13 Mississippi Ballet International 1979-1981

b. 7 f. 14 New York Public Library, Diaghilev Exhibition 1980