



The New York Public Library  
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

**Larry Warren collection of Lester Horton Dance Theater negatives**

1940s-1950s

\*MGZEB 22-0001

Processed by Heather Lember in 2022.

## Summary

**Collector:** Warren, Larry, 1932-2009

**Title:** Larry Warren collection of Lester Horton Dance Theater negatives

**Date:** 1940s-1950s

**Size:** 1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)

**Source:** Donated by Larry Warren in 1994.

**Abstract:** Larry Warren was a dancer, choreographer, teacher, and dance biographer who wrote a book about the dancer, choreographer, and teacher, Lester Horton. Warren's collection contains negatives depicting the Lester Horton Dance Theater taken by the photographer, Constantine.

**Preferred citation:** Larry Warren collection of Lester Horton Dance Theater negatives, \*MGZEB 22-0001. 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 2022.

## Creator History

Larry Warren was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1932, and moved to North Hollywood, California in his teens. He studied Theater Arts at UCLA, and after graduating, studied dance in Los Angeles with Ruth St. Denis, Bella Lewitzky, and James Truitte. Warren then relocated to New York City where he studied at the Martha Graham School.

Warren returned to California and earned his Master's degree at UCLA, writing his thesis on Lester Horton. In 1971, Warren became faculty at the University of Maryland, and also co-founded the Maryland Dance Theater. He served as Associate Director of the company until 1975, and Director from 1976 to 1988, when the Maryland Dance Theater disbanded. Warren continued to teach until his retirement in 1995.

The Lester Horton Dance Theater was founded by the dancer, choreographer, and teacher, Lester

Horton in 1946. The Theater was based in Hollywood, California, and housed both a dance company and dance school, which offered classes for adults and children. Horton coordinated several seasons of modern dance performances at the Theater until his death in 1953. His business partner, Frank Eng, continued to run the Theatre until it closed in 1960.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The collection dates from the 1940s to 1950s and contains negatives depicting Lester Horton Dance Theater performances. The negatives were compiled by Larry Warren and shot by the photographer, Constantine. All of the negatives are unlabeled and undated.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

Choreographers  
Dance companies -- Photographs

### **Occupations**

Dancers.

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Negatives (photographs)

### **Names**

Constantine, 1913-1982  
Horton, Lester, 1906-1953  
Warren, Larry, 1932-2009  
Lester Horton Dance Theater