



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Hazel Lockwood Muller papers, Additions

1939-1951

(S) *MGZMD 375

Compiled by Lea Jordan, 2014

Summary

Creator: Muller, Hazel Lockwood

Title: Hazel Lockwood Muller papers, Additions

Date: 1939-1951

Size: 2.1 linear feet (5 boxes)

Source: Unknown.

Abstract: Hazel Lockwood Muller was the supervisor of dance and lecture programs for the American Museum of Natural History, New York from 1945 to 1952. The Hazel Lockwood Muller papers, Additions hold correspondence, programs, notes, and performer files which document her presentation of *Around the World with Dance and Song* and the illustrative music program at the Museum. There are also scripts from her radio show, *Dance Horizons*.

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Creator History

Hazel Lockwood Muller was the supervisor of dance and lecture programs for the American Museum of Natural History, New York. She began her career at the museum in 1922. In 1939 Muller initiated dance recitals in the Indian Hall and in 1942 began holding formal concerts in the Museum's auditorium. In 1945 she was officially appointed supervisor of dance and lecture programs.

Muller's most popular program was *Around the World with Dance and Song* (1943-1952). The program introduced audiences to world dance, adding a living component to museum exhibits. Muller arranged for lecture-demonstrations of dance by groups from around the world. She also designed the Museum's illustrative music program, which used a collection of records to pipe music and sound effects into

exhibit halls.

As a result of *Around the World With Dance and Song's* success, Muller was asked to author radio scripts for the program *Dance Horizons* which aired on WNYC from 1945 to 1946. The show was hosted by Muller, and was a scripted interview format with various performers who were set to appear at *Around the World with Dance and Song*.

Scope and Content Note

The Hazel Lockwood Muller papers, Additions hold correspondence, programs, notes, and performer files which document her presentation of *Around the World with Dance and Song* and the illustrative music program at the Museum. There are also scripts from her radio show, *Dance Horizons*.

Around the World With Dance and Song files include programs, performer research files, and notecards with Muller's introductory remarks. The performer research files hold promotional material, clippings, notes, and correspondence on various individual performers or troupes under consideration for the program. Some performers have their own files (notable artists include La Meri and Reginald and Gladys Laubin), but others are grouped by region or dance type such as Russian or folk dance. Muller's introductory remarks are alphabetical by artist and cover the background of each performer as well as announcements about future performances.

The illustrative music files hold program lists with albums and songs used for each exhibit hall, a list of albums available for Muller's use, and annual reports to the Museum on the success of the program. The *Dance Horizons* files hold radio scripts, some with "revised as broadcast" annotations.

Key Terms

Subjects

Museum exhibits -- New York (State)
Museum outreach programs
Radio programs

Names

Muse_um national d'histoire naturelle (France)

Container List

Around the World With Dance and Song

- b. 1 f. 1-4 Introductions 1947-1951
- Performer Files
- b. 1 f. 5-13 A-Den undated
- b. 2 f. 1-13 Des-R undated
- b. 3 f. 1-4 S-Z undated
- b. 3 f. 5-10 Programs 1939-1948
- b. 4 f. 1-5 *Dance Horizons* 1946
- Illustrative Music Program
- b. 4 f. 6 Album List undated
- b. 4 f. 7 Museum Reports 1939-1942
- b. 5 f. 1-6 Programming 1939-1948