



The New York Public Library  
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

**Cynthia Newport Dance Cuba archive**

2000-2011

(S) \*MGZMD 465

Compiled by Heather Lember, 2017.

## Summary

**Creator:** Newport, Cynthia

**Title:** Cynthia Newport Dance Cuba archive

**Date:** 2000-2011

**Size:** 5.54 linear feet (14 boxes); 88.63 gb (3,647 computer files)

**Source:** Donated by Cynthia Newport on behalf of Illume Productions, 2016.

**Abstract:** The Cynthia Newport Dance Cuba archive contains materials related to the production of the documentary film, *Dance Cuba*, which was produced and co-directed by Cynthia Newport. The collection consists of administrative records, interviews with dancers and choreographers, photographs, production files, promotional items, research materials, audio recordings, and video footage that date from 2000 to 2011.

### Conditions Governing Access:

Audio and video recordings are unavailable pending digitization.

**Conditions Governing Use:** The author/creator retains the copyright of materials. For information on obtaining permission to publish, contact the Dance Division at [dance@nypl.org](mailto:dance@nypl.org).

**Preferred citation:** Cynthia Newport Dance Cuba archive, (S) \*MGZMD 465. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

**Processing note:** Compiled by Heather Lember, 2017.

## Creator History

Cynthia Newport is the founder and president of Illume Productions, and producer of the documentary, *Dance Cuba*. The film, which was released in 2004, was shot in both the United States and Cuba, and tells the story of the dancers of the Ballet Nacional de Cuba and the Washington Ballet. The film documents the first performance by a United States dance company in Cuba in over forty years.

Newport co-directed *Dance Cuba* with Barbara Kopple, who filmed in the United States, and Boris Ivan Crespo, who shot the footage in Cuba. *Dance Cuba* features interviews with Carlos Acosta, principal dancer for the Royal Ballet; Alicia Alonso, founder and Director General of the Ballet Nacional de Cuba; Lorna Feijóo, prima ballerina of the Ballet Nacional de Cuba; American choreographer, Trey McIntyre; and Septime Webre, the artistic director of the Washington Ballet.

## Scope and Content Note

The collection dates from 2000 to 2011 and contains the administrative records of Illume Productions and interview transcripts, photographs, production materials, promotional documents, and research files related to *Dance Cuba*. These materials document the research, production, promotion and funding of the film; contain information concerning the operations of Illume Productions; and provide insight into the careers of the dancers profiled in the collection's interviews.

The Illume Productions records consist of administrative materials regarding the company's daily operations, and project proposals for films the company considered producing. The administrative files contain budgets, financial statements, and projections which relate to the financing of *Dance Cuba*. The administrative records are arranged chronologically, while the Projects and Proposals are arranged by their working titles.

The Interviews files contain transcripts of interviews conducted for *Dance Cuba*. Most interviews were translated into Spanish or English, and are found in both languages. There are also interviews included that were not featured in the final cut of the film. These files are arranged alphabetically by interviewee last name or subject matter.

The collection holds many photographs, which includes contact sheets, digital images, negatives, prints, and slides. The images depict dancers, dance rehearsals, performances, Cuban landscapes, and the film's production staff. There is also a selection of photographs which were arranged alphabetically by subject matter or name. All other photographs are arranged chronologically.

The production files include releases, shoot schedules, video indexes, and video log files. Some of the logs describe scene breakdowns on individual video tapes, while others index archival footage that was utilized. These files also hold action lists, call sheets, camera notes, contact information, crew lists, insurance information, script notes, production reports, and financial data relevant to each particular shoot. There are files for scenes shot at the Washington Ballet, B-roll shot in Havana, and interviews filmed with Septime Webre, Carlos Acosta, and Alicia Alonso. Additionally, there is audio and moving image materials which include master tapes, raw footage, interviews, and historical footage that were not included in the film.

The Promotion and Press files feature materials related to the marketing and promotion of *Dance Cuba*, as well as press garnered by the film. Included are marketing files; photographs from press conferences; flyers and photographs from screenings and film festivals; and promotional video reels.

The Research files contain a small collection of programs from dance performances in both the United States and Cuba. These files hold programs for a performance of *La Realidad y El Mito* autographed by Miguel Cabrera, a 2001 performance by the Ballet Nacional de Cuba at The Kennedy Center, a performance at the American Ballet Theatre at the Metropolitan Opera House, and Festival Internacional de Ballet de La Habana. There are also clippings of articles and interviews, a few posters from dance performances, and an index of archival photographs.

**Arrangement:** Files are arranged chronologically by topic. Interview files and photographs are arranged alphabetically by name or subject matter.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

Choreography  
Dance companies -- Cuba  
Dance companies -- Washington (D.C.)  
Dance films  
Documentary films  
Modern dance

### **Occupations**

Dancers  
Motion picture directors

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Financial statements  
Interviews  
Photographs  
Programs  
Research  
Sound recordings  
Video recordings

### **Geographic Names**

Havana (Cuba)  
Washington (D.C.)

### **Names**

Acosta, Carlos, 1973-  
Alonso, Alicia, 1921-  
Alonso, Fernando, 1914-2013  
Feijóo, Lorna  
McIntyre, Trey  
Webre, Septime  
Ballet Nacional de Cuba  
Royal Ballet  
Washington Ballet (Washington, D.C.)

## Container List

### Illume Productions

#### Administrative Records

- b. 1 f. 1-12 2000-2007
  - er. 1 2003-2007  
(1,336 Kilobytes (27 computer files))

#### Projects and Proposals

- er. 2 2008  
(5,325 Kilobytes (114 computer files))
- er. 3 Marian Anderson 2008  
(2,047 Megabytes (76 computer files))
- er. 4 Monuments 2003  
(186.5 Kilobytes (6 computer files))
- er. 5 Rob Kapilow 2003-2004  
(6,774 Kilobytes (55 computer files))

#### Interviews

- b. 1 f. 13-15 2003
  - er. 6 2003-2004  
(776 Kilobytes (16 computer files))

#### Acosta, Carlos

- b. 2 f. 1-2 2003
  - er. 7 2003  
(767.5 Kilobytes (20 computer files))
  - er. 8 Acosta, Jonah Junior Gonzalez 2003  
(104.5 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

- b. 2 f. 3 Acosta, Marylin 2003

#### Acosta, Pedro

- b. 2 f. 4-5 2003
  - er. 9 2003  
(92 Kilobytes (3 computer files))

#### Albelo Oti, Ismael

- b. 2 f. 6-7 2003
  - er. 10 2003  
(294.5 Kilobytes (6 computer files))

#### Alonso, Alicia

- b. 2 f. 8 2003
  - er. 11 2003  
(43 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

#### Alonso, Fernando

- b. 2 f. 9 2003
  - er. 12 2003  
(454.5 Kilobytes (7 computer files))

- b. 2 f. 10-11 Alvarez Echegoyén, Nancy 2003

#### Boan, Marianela

Interviews (cont.)

Boan, Marianela (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 12 2003
- er. 13 2003  
(46.5 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

Cabrera, Miguel

- b. 2 f. 13-14 2003
- er. 14 2003  
(353 Kilobytes (3 computer files))

Carreño, Alihaydée

- b. 2 f. 15-16 2003
- er. 15 2003  
(499 Kilobytes (8 computer files))

Carreño, Joel

- b. 2 f. 17-18 2003
- er. 16 2003  
(225.7 Kilobytes (8 computer files))

- er. 17 Castro, Fidel 2003  
(20.5 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

Chavez, Jose Antonio

- b. 2 f. 19 2003
- er. 18 2003  
(142 Kilobytes (3 computer files))

- er. 19 Cocorello, Ed 2003  
(50.5 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

Correles, Manuel

- b. 2 f. 20-21 2003
- er. 20 2003  
(258 Kilobytes (3 computer files))

Feijóo, Lorna

- b. 2 f. 22 2003
- er. 21 2003  
(99.5 Kilobytes (2 computer files))

- b. 2 f. 23 Gili, Victor 2003

- b. 2 f. 24 Godding, John 2003

- b. 3 f. 1 Gonzalez-Acosta, Jonah 2003

Grau, Angela

- b. 3 f. 2-3 2003
- er. 22 2003  
(398.6 Kilobytes (6 computer files))

Guerra, Ramiro

- b. 3 f. 4 2003
- er. 23 2003  
(507.2 Kilobytes (9 computer files))

- er. 24 Hartley, Jason 2003  
(44 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

Interviews (cont.)

Iglesias, Miguel

- b. 3 f. 5-6 2003
- er. 25 2003  
(401.5 Kilobytes (4 computer files))
- er. 26 Jimenez, Michelle 2004  
(30.5 Kilobytes (1 computer file))
- er. 27 Lani, Leki 2003  
(27.5 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

Madrita, Godmother

- b. 3 f. 7 2003
- er. 28 2003  
(80.96 Kilobytes (3 computer files))
- er. 29 Mahoney, Erin 2003  
(25 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

McIntire, Trey

- b. 3 f. 8 2003
- er. 30 2003  
(286.5 Kilobytes (5 computer files))

McKerrow, Amanda 2003

- b. 3 f. 9 2003
- er. 31 2003  
(85.5 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

Núñez, Líduce

- b. 3 f. 10-11 2003
- er. 32 2003  
(559.1 Kilobytes (6 computer files))
- er. 33 Palomo, Cortney 2003  
(178.5 Kilobytes (2 computer files))
- er. 34 Perry, Heather 2003  
(27 Kilobytes (1 computer file))
- er. 35 Pop Interviews 2003  
(306.2 Kilobytes (8 computer files))

Roblejo, Luis

- b. 3 f. 12-13 2003
- er. 36 2003  
(195.9 Kilobytes (4 computer files))

- b. 3 f. 14-15 Rodríguez, Pérez and Silvia, Maria 2003

Saddler, Donald

- b. 3 f. 16 2003
- er. 37 2003  
(44 Kilobytes (1 computer file))

Simón, Pedro

- b. 3 f. 17-18 2003
- er. 38 2003  
(320.8 Kilobytes (6 computer files))

Interviews (cont.)

- er. 39     **Suarez, Jose Matias 2003**  
            (89 Kilobytes (1 computer file))  
**Torres Hernández, Gabriel**
- b. 3 f. 19-20     **2003**
- er. 40     **2003**  
            (123 Kilobytes (2 computer files))
- er. 41     **Urgellés, Laura 2003**  
            (150 Kilobytes (4 computer files))  
**Valdés, Viensay**
- b. 3 f. 11-22     **2003**
- er. 42     **2003**  
            (343.2 Kilobytes (7 computer files))  
**Walker, Eduardo Rivero**
- b. 3 f. 23     **2003**
- er. 43     **2003**  
            (545 Kilobytes (6 computer files))
- b. 4 f. 1     **Washington Ballet Dancers 2003**
- b. 4 f. 2     **Webre, Jane 2003**  
**Webre, John**
- b. 4 f. 3-4     **2003**
- er. 44     **2003**  
            (152.5 Kilobytes (3 computer files))  
**Webre, Septime**
- b. 4 f. 5-6     **2003**
- er. 45     **2003**  
            (2,164 Kilobytes (31 computer files))
- Photographs**
- b. 4 f. 7-11     **2000-2006**
- b. 5 f. 1-11     **2000-2006**
- b. 6 f. 1-4     **2000-2006**
- b. 13 f. 1-8     **2000-2006**
- b. 14 f. 1-4     **2000-2006**
- er. 46     **2003-2010**  
            (6,415 Megabytes (332 computer files))
- er. 47     **Acosta, Carlos 2003-2008**  
            (651.3 Megabytes (132 computer files))
- er. 48     **Alonso, Alicia 2003**  
            (10.86 Gigabytes (227 computer files))
- er. 49     **Alonso, Fernando 2003**  
            (1,300 Megabytes (45 computer files))
- er. 50     **Ballet Nacional de Cuba 2003**  
            (2,573 Megabytes (46 computer files))
- b. 6 f. 5     **Ballet Show and Costume Makers 2000-2006**
- b. 6 f. 6     **Ballet Structures 2000-2006**

Photographs (cont.)

- er. 51 **Bars 2001-2005**  
(2,146 Kilobytes (21 computer files))  
**Beaches**
- er. 52 **2002-2005**  
(6,332 Kilobytes (11 computer files))
- er. 53 **Marina Tarara 2001-2004**  
(31.58 Megabytes (37 computer files))
- er. 54 **Playa Baracoa Varias Casas 2003-2005**  
(4,297 Kilobytes (23 computer files))
- er. 55 **Playa Jibacoa 2002**  
(318.1 Kilobytes (9 computer files))
- er. 56 **Santa Fe 2004**  
(293.1 Kilobytes (2 computer files))
- er. 57 **Santa Maria 2002-2004**  
(14.65 Megabytes (14 computer files))
- er. 58 **Varadero 2002**  
(252.5 Kilobytes (9 computer files))  
**Buildings and Interiors of Houses**
- b. 6 f. 7 **2000-2006**
- er. 59 **2002-2006**  
(109.5 Megabytes (276 computer files))
- er. 60 **Cars 2003-2005**  
(18.22 Megabytes (39 computer files))
- er. 61 **Castro, Fidel 2003**  
(5,018 Kilobytes (18 computer files))
- er. 62 **Churches 2002-2006**  
(99.65 Megabytes (113 computer files))  
**Cuba**
- b. 6 f. 8-14 **2006**
- er. 63 **2006**  
(32.68 Megabytes (158 computer files))
- er. 64 **Havana Bay**  
(21.59 Megabytes (28 computer files))
- er. 65 **Exhibition 2003**  
(6,321 Kilobytes (12 computer files))
- er. 66 **Feijóo, Lorna 2003**  
(1,607 Megabytes (21 computer files))
- er. 67 **Frame Grabs 2007**  
(23.75 Megabytes (2 computer files))
- er. 68 **Getty, Alicia 2003**  
(170.4 Megabytes (31 computer files))
- er. 69 **Grau, Angela 2003**  
(1,551 Megabytes (37 computer files))
- er. 70 **Manatí 2003**  
(663 Megabytes (5 computer files))
- b. 7 f. 1-4 **Modern Dance 2000-2006**



Photographs (cont.)

er. 71 Museo de la Danza 2003  
(67.59 Megabytes (85 computer files))

er. 72 Palomo, Cortney 2003  
(1,905 Megabytes (18 computer files))

People

b. 7 f. 5 2000-2006

er. 73 2004  
(662 Kilobytes (7 computer files))

er. 74 Rural Environments 2005-2006  
(27.8 Megabytes (27 computer files))

er. 75 Street, Houses, and Towns 2001-2006  
(13.97 Megabytes (50 computer files))

b. 7 f. 6 Sunsets 2000-2006

er. 76 Train Stations 2004  
(19.32 Megabytes (17 computer files))

b. 7 f. 7 Transportaion 2000-2006

er. 77 Urgellés, Laura 2003  
(73.11 Megabytes (65 computer files))

Washington Ballet

b. 8 f. 1-9 2000-2004

b. 13 f. 9-12 2000-2004

Webre, Septime

er. 78 2003  
(2,643 Megabytes (21 computer files))

er. 79 Family 2003  
(28.83 Gigabytes (426 computer files))

Production

b. 8 f. 10-13 2000-2003

b. 9 f. 1-12 2000-2003

b. 10 f. 1-9 2003

b. 11 f. 1-6 2003-2011

er. 80 2004  
(4,371 Megabytes (105 computer files))

Promotion and Press

er. 81 2004-2007  
(692.4 Megabytes (178 computer files))

er. 82 Marketing 2004-2006  
(41.53 Megabytes (9 computer files))

er. 83 Press Conferences 2004-2005  
(330.7 Megabytes (205 computer files))

Screenings

er. 84 2004-2005  
(645.7 Megabytes (192 computer files))

er. 85 Constellation Change Film Festival 2005  
(697.5 Megabytes (59 computer files))

Promotion and Press (cont.)

Screenings (cont.)

er. 86      **Palm Springs International Film Festival 2005**  
              (206.5 Megabytes (22 computer files))

er. 87      **Video Reels 2007**  
              (20.2 Gigabytes (5 computer files))

**Research**

b. 11 f. 7-11      **2000-2005**

b. 12 f. 1-8      **2000-2005**

er. 88      **2003-2007**  
              (5,589 Kilobytes (25 computer files))