



The New York Public Library Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Jacques Rouché collection

1884-2014 [bulk 1884-1913]

(S) *MGZMD 519

Processed by Nathan Evans in 2020.

Summary

Creator: Garafola, Lynn

Title: Jacques Rouché collection

Date: 1884-2014 [bulk 1884-1913]

Size: 1.3 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Donated by Lynn Garafola, 2019.

Abstract: Jacques Rouché (1862-1957) was a French theater patron who managed the Théâtre des Arts (now Theatre Hébertot) and Paris Opera. He is recognized for his contributions in modernizing French theater and dance in the 20th century. The Jacques Rouché collection primarily documents Rouché's tenure at the Théâtre des Arts with articles about productions he staged, with emphasis on ballet. The collection also traces Rouché's career as manager of the Paris Opera, as well as activity at the Alhambra Theatre in London.

Preferred citation: Jacques Rouché collection, (S) *MGZMD 519. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

Language of the Material: Multiple languages French and English, with some Italian.

Processing note: Processed by Nathan Evans in 2020.

Creator History

Jacques Rouché (1862-1957) was a French theater patron who managed the Théâtre des Arts (now Theatre Hébertot) and Paris Opera. He rented the Théâtre des Arts for three seasons starting in 1910, immediately establishing a radical program. Rouché staged adaptations of *The Brothers Karamazov* as well as operas not performed in France for over a century. At this time, ballet had lost popularity in Western Europe, being performed mostly at music halls such as the Alhambra Theatre in London. But after seeing the Ballets Russes in Paris, Rouché devoted the 1912 season to dance. Several ballets were performed, including *Adélaïde, ou le langage des fleurs* and *Ma mère l'Oye* by Maurice Ravel. Critics took interest in these ballets and Rouché's other productions, reflected in reviews from publications like *Comoedia Illustré*, *Le Figaro*, and *Le Théâtre*. During his tenure, Rouché worked

directly with Maurice Ravel and Hungarian dancer Sahary-Djeli. He brought his forward-thinking attitude to the Paris Opera in 1914, which he managed until 1945. In 1929 after the dissolution of the Ballets Russes, Rouché helped restore dance to the forefront of French theatre by hiring dancer and choreographer Serge Lifar. He also wrote several essays about costume and set design during his career, and staged dances from around the world at the Paris Opera. Today, Rouché is recognized as having modernized French theater in the 20th century.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of research materials collected by dance historian Lynn Garafola. It primarily documents two subjects: Rouché's career as manager of the Théâtre des Arts from 1910-1913, and activity at the Alhambra Theatre in London from 1884-1911. The vast majority of items in the collection are photocopies or typescript articles. The Théâtre des Arts materials largely comprise theater reviews, with emphasis on ballets performed in 1912 and 1913. The collection also contains articles and essays that document Rouché's career after the Théâtre des Arts. The Alhambra Theatre materials do not directly pertain to Rouché. They consist of production programs and news clippings about the Theatre, again with emphasis on ballet. Finally, the collection contains several miscellaneous items about dancers Hubert Stowitts and Anna Pavlova, Spanish, Indian and Latin American dance, and Leni Riefenstahl.

Arrangement: Received order is maintained. New folders are provided for items that were in three-ring binders.

Key Terms

Subjects

Ballet -- 20th century
Ballet -- Costume
Ballet -- France -- Paris
Dance -- France -- Paris
Dance -- India -- History
Dance -- Latin America -- History
Dance -- Spain -- History
Dance photography -- Exhibitions
Opera -- France -- Paris
Theater -- France -- Paris
Theaters -- Stage-setting and scenery
Theatrical managers -- France -- 20th century

Names

Garafola, Lynn
Lifar, Serge, 1905-1986
Orenstein, Arbie
Pavlova, Anna, 1881-1931
Ravel, Maurice, 1875-1937
Riefenstahl, Leni
Rouché, Jacques, 1862-1957
Sahary-Djeli, Miss
Shawn, Ted, 1891-1972
Stowitts, Hubert Julian, 1892-1953

Opéra de Paris
Royal Alhambra Theatre (London, England)
Théâtre Hébertot (Paris, France)

Container List

Jacques Rouché Materials 1909-1990

Rouché at the Théâtre des Arts 1909-1990 [bulk 1909-1913]

- b. 1 f. 1 *Comoedia Illustré -- Review of Mikhail* 1909 April 6
- b. 1 f. 1 *Figaro -- Review of Mikhail* 1909 April 6
- b. 1 f. 1 *Comoedia Illustré -- Article about Théâtre des Arts* 1909 April 9
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Les naillonnés and La Gosseline* 1909 August
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of La marquesita, La tour du silence, and l'Eventail de Lady Windermere* 1909 September
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of The Brothers Karamazov* 1911 May
- b. 1 f. 1 *Figaro -- Review of La Nuit Persane* 1911 May 11
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Niou and La Nuit Persane* 1911 July
- b. 1 f. 1 *Grande Revue, La -- "La Vie Théâtre"* 1911 June 10
- b. 1 f. 1 *Journal des Débats: Revue hebdomadaire -- "Revue musicale"* 1911 June 11
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre des Arts Program* 1911
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Le Pain* 1911 December
- b. 1 f. 1 *Comoedia Illustré -- Article about costume design* 1912 February
- b. 1 f. 1 *Letter from Maurice Ravel to Jacques Rouché about Ma Mère l'Oye* 1912 February 1
- b. 1 f. 1 *Orenstein, Arbie, Ravel: Man and Musician Excerpt About Ma Mère l'Oye* 1968
- b. 1 f. 1 *Orenstein, Arbie, A Ravel Reader excerpt about Ma Mère l'Oye and Adélaïde, ou le langage des fleurs* 1990
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Le chagrin dans le Palais de Han* 1912 August
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Le Grand Nom and Marie-Madeleine* 1913 January
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Thésée, Une éducation manquée, and Dolly* 1913 February
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Le couronnement de Poppée, Le Rêve, and l'Amoureuse leçon* 1913 March
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Le combat* 1913 April
- b. 1 f. 1 *Comoedia Illustré -- Article about Les Aveux indiscrets, Le Feu, and Ma Mère l'Oye* 1913 March
- b. 1 f. 1 *Comoedia Illustré -- Article about Pygmalion, Le Festin de l'Araignée, and Mesdames de la Halle* 1913 April 20
- b. 1 f. 1 *Figaro -- Typescript excerpt about Théâtre des Arts ballet* 1913 May 2
- b. 1 f. 1 *Figaro -- Article about Théâtre des Arts ballet* 1913 May 3
- b. 1 f. 1 *Figaro -- Typescript excerpt about Théâtre des Arts ballet* 1913 May 23
- b. 1 f. 1 *Comoedia Illustré -- Article about Gérard et Isabelle, ou La Vengeance d'Estéban and Le Secret des Mortigny, ou de l'Honneur à la Honte* 1913 July 5
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Marie d'Aout and Une loge pour Faust* 1913 August
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Pygmalion, Le Festin de l'Araignée, and Mesdames de la Halle* 1913 September

Jacques Rouché Materials (cont.)

Rouché at the Théâtre des Arts (cont.)

- b. 1 f. 1 *Comoedia Illustré -- Article about Pygmalion, Le Festin de l'Araignée, and Mesdames de la Halle* 1913 September
- b. 1 f. 1 *Arabesque -- Excerpt about Sahary-Djeli* 1986 November-December
- b. 1 f. 1 *Arabesque -- Excerpt about Sahary-Djeli* 1986 January-February
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of La Revue* 1913 June
- b. 1 f. 1 *Théâtre, Le -- Review of Le Droit de mort and Le Cœur en panne* 1913 December
- Rouché throughout his career 1910-1971
- b. 1 f. 2 Jacques Rouché biographical entry
- b. 1 f. 2 Théâtre des Arts photographs
- b. 1 f. 2 *Nouvelle Revue Française -- Excerpt* 1910
- b. 1 f. 2 Typescript of essay by Rouché about the Lyon Opera
- b. 1 f. 2 *Revue Musicale -- Typescript of article about Serge Lifar* 1971
- b. 1 f. 2 *Comoedia Illustré -- Excerpt* 1913
- b. 1 f. 2 Profile of Rouché
- b. 1 f. 2 "Mise en scène de crise ou crise de mise en scène?" by Jacques Rouché
- b. 1 f. 2 Clipping about opera
- b. 1 f. 2 "L'Oeuvre de M. Jacques Rouché a l'Opéra" article 1932
- b. 1 f. 2 Article about Rouché's renewal as director of the Paris Opera 1933
- b. 1 f. 2 Profile of Rouché as Paris Opera director 1933
- b. 1 f. 2 Articles about Rouché receiving la Legion d'Honneur 1933
- b. 1 f. 2 Article about l'Opéra-Comique 1936
- b. 1 f. 2 Satirical cartoon about Rouché 1936
- b. 1 f. 2 Photographs of Rouché's home 1936
- b. 1 f. 2 Interview with Rouché about opera 1937
- b. 1 f. 2 Articles about Rouché's termination as director of the Paris Opera 1945
- b. 1 f. 2 Rouché obituaries 1957
- b. 1 f. 2 Articles about Rouché's centennial 1962
- b. 1 f. 2 *Mousment contraire: souvenir d'un musicien -- Excerpt* 1947
- b. 1 f. 2 "Sur La Musique par Paul Claudel, l'Académie Française" 1950
- b. 1 f. 3-6 Alhambra Theatre programs 1884-1911
Production programs, with some news clippings and typescript excerpts from articles.
- Miscellaneous 1926-2014
- b. 1 f. 7 Hubert Stowitts photographs
- b. 1 f. 7 Article by Ted Shawn about Spanish dance 1926 March
- b. 1 f. 7 Article by Ted Shawn about Nautch dancers in India 1926 July
- b. 1 f. 7 Article by Ted Shawn about Hindu dance 1926 October
- b. 1 f. 7 Excerpt about Hubert Stowitts and Indian dance 1929
- b. 1 f. 7 Transcript of articles about Leni Riefenstahl 1939
- b. 1 f. 7 *Visions of the Dance, Teatro Municipale "R. Valli* 1983
- b. 1 f. 7 *Staging the Orient: Visions of the East at La Scala and the Metropolitan Opera* 2004

Miscellaneous (cont.)

b. 1 f. 7 *Conversations Across the Field of Dance Studies* 2014