



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Paul B. Goode American Ballet Theatre photographs

1980-1990

*MGZEB 21-0015

Processed by Emily P. Dunne in 2021.

Summary

Photographer: Goode, Paul B.

Title: Paul B. Goode American Ballet Theatre photographs

Date: 1980-1990

Size: 3.33 linear feet (8 boxes)

Source: Gift of Paul B. Goode and Alan Olshan in June 1994.

Abstract: Paul B. Goode is a New York City based photographer who has been photographing dance since 1976. Goode was hired to photograph Mikhail Baryshnikov's official director's portrait for the American Ballet Theatre, and eventually the company's performances from the 1980s until 1990. During this time, Baryshnikov restaged several classical ballets and new productions, including performances by Twyla Tharp and Agnes De Mille.

Access: Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult: <https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

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Language of the Material: English

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

Creator History

Paul B. Goode is a photographer based in New York City. Much of Goode's photography has been documenting dance and making intimate portraits of dancers in motion. In 1980, Goode was contacted by the assistant development director at the American Ballet Theater, Alan Olshan, to take the official director's portrait of Mikhail Baryshnikov. This led to Goode photographing the American Ballet Theatre

for almost ten years, the entire tenure of Baryshnikov's role as the artistic director. Goode was granted access to rehearsals, performances, backstage, and eventually toured with the company. Goode continues to photograph dance and has worked with Bill T. Jones, the Bolshoi Opera and Ballet, Trisha Brown, and more. Goode's work also explores portraits of bodybuilders, pregnant women, Coney Island cigarette butts, and more.

The American Ballet Theatre is a New York City based dance company founded in 1939 dedicated to preserving the legacy of classical dance and creating new performances for audiences worldwide.

This collection covers dance performances and rehearsals from the 1980s to 1990, during which time Mikhail Baryshnikov was the Artistic Director. The performances documented include *Swan Lake*, several dances with choreography by Agnes De Mille, Antony Tudor's ballets, a restaging of *Gaité Parisienne*, and performances by Twyla Tharp.

Scope and Content Note

This collection is comprised of contact sheets of dance performances and rehearsals of the American Ballet Theatre from the 1980s to 1990. The photographs were taken by Paul B. Goode and cover the tenure of Mikhail Baryshnikov as the Artistic Director of the company. The performances documented include *Swan Lake*, several dances with choreography by Agnes De Mille, Anthony Tudor's ballets, and a restaging of *Gaité Parisienne*, and performances by Twyla Tharp. The photographs provide an intensive visual reflection of the theatre's activities and Baryshnikov's work during this time, and Goode's development of his personal style of photographing intimate portraits of dancers.

The photographer has numbered the contact sheets, so the temporal order of the performance can be inferred by the order Goode photographed the dancers.

The American Ballet Theatre photographs are one grouping arranged chronologically with the choreographer noted, when known.

Key Terms

Occupations

Art directors.
Dancers.
Photographers.

Subjects

Ballet companies -- Photographs
Choreographers -- United States -- 20th century
Dance -- Photographs

Names

Balanchine, George
Baryshnikov, Mikhail, 1948-
De Mille, Agnes
Goode, Paul B.
Tharp, Twyla
American Ballet Theatre

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 *The Nutcracker* -- *Baryshnikov, Mikhail* 1980s
- b. 1 f. 2 *Prodigal Son* -- *Balanchine, George* 1980s
- b. 1 f. 3 Rehearsals -- *Tudor, Anthony* 1980s
General rehearsal, 1988 Gala and *Jardin aux Lilas*.
- b. 1 f. 4 *Giselle* -- *Baryshnikov, Mikhail* 1985
- b. 1 f. 5 *Romeo and Juliet* -- *MacMillan, Kenneth* 1985
- b. 2 f. 1 *Francesca da Rimini* -- *Taras, John* 1986
- b. 2 f. 2 *Requiem* -- *MacMillan, Kenneth* 1986
- b. 2 f. 3-4 *Bruch Violin Concerto #1* -- *Tippet, Clark* 1989
- b. 2 f. 5 *Drink To Me Only With Thine Eyes* -- *Morris, Mark* 1988
- b. 2 f. 6 *Enough Said* -- *Tippet, Clark* 1988
- b. 3 f. 1-2 *Gaîté Parisienne, Rehearsals* -- *Massine, Leonide* 1988
- b. 3 f. 3-4 *Gaîté Parisienne* -- *Massine, Leonide* 1988
- b. 3 f. 5 Gala Performance -- *Tudor, Anthony* 1988
- b. 4 f. 1
- b. 4 f. 2-3 *The Informer* -- *De Mille, Agnes* 1988
- b. 4 f. 4 *Murder* -- *Gordon, David* 1988
- b. 4 f. 5 *The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA)* -- *Tippet, Clark* 1988
- b. 4 f. 6-7 *Stravinsky Violin Concerto* -- *Balanchine, George* 1988
- b. 5 f. 1 Formally titled *Ballet Imperial*.
- b. 5 f. 2-6 *Swan Lake* -- *Baryshnikov, Mikhail* 1989
- b. 6
- b. 7 f. 2-4 50th Anniversary Gala 1990
- b. 7 f. 5 *Birthday Offering* -- *Ashton, Frederick* 1990
- b. 7 f. 6 *Brief Fling* -- *Tharp, Twyla* 1990
- b. 7 f. 7 *Jardin aux Lilas* -- *Tudor, Anthony* 1990
- b. 8 f. 1 *La Sylphide* -- *Lander, Harold* 1990
- b. 8 f. 2 *Les Sylphides* -- *Fokin, Mikhail* 1990
- b. 8 f. 3 *Nine Sinatra Songs* -- *Tharp, Twyla* 1990
- b. 8 f. 4 *Push Comes to Shove* -- *Tharp, Twyla* 1990
- b. 8 f. 5 Rehearsals -- *Tharp, Twyla* 1990
Rehearsals for *Brief Fling*, *Nine Sinatra Songs*, and *Push Comes to Shove*.
- b. 8 f. 6 *Rodeo* -- *De Mille, Agnes* 1990
- b. 8 f. 7 Unidentified Productions 1980s-1990
- b. 8 f. 8 Portraits 1980s-1990