



The New York Public Library
Music Division

Guide to the

Gertrude Lippincott collection of ballet music

ca. 1944-1964

JPB 98-26

Processed by Martha Grutchfield.

Summary

Creator: Lippincott, Gertrude

Title: Gertrude Lippincott collection of ballet music

Date: ca. 1944-1964

Source: The Gertrude Lippincott Collection of Ballet Music was received from the estate of Gertrude Lippincott, by way of the Dance Collection.

Abstract: The Gertrude Lippincott Collection of Ballet Music contains music used by Lippincott in creating ballets.

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>

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to copy or publish please contact the Music Division.

Preferred citation: The Gertrude Lippincott Collection of Ballet Music, JPB 98-26, Music Division, The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Processed by Martha Grutchfield; machine-readable finding aid created by Robert Kosovsky.

Related Materials:

The major portion of the Gertrude Lippincott papers resides in the Dance Collection of the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, classmark: (S) *MGZMD 114.

Creator History

Gertrude Lippincott was a modern dancer, choreographer, educator, and founder of the Modern Dance Center in Minneapolis. She was born in 1913 and developed an interest in dance an early age. She was educated at University of Chicago, University of Minnesota, in Mary Wigman technique in London, Bennington College, in classes with Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey, Charles Weidman, Hanya Holm, Louis Horst, Ella Daganova, and received a Master's degree from New York University. She began her performing career with the University of Minnesota Dance Group in the early 1930s and later toured the University, Mills College and other institutions. In 1937 she established the Modern Dance Center of Minneapolis. She was co-editor of Dance Observer and wrote articles for Journal of Health and Physical Education, Impuls and other periodicals.

Gertrude Lippincott died June 2, 1996.

Scope and Content Note

The Gertrude Lippincott Collection of Ballet Music contains music used by Lippincott in the creation of ballets.

Arrangement: The collection is in a single series and is arranged alphabetically by composer.

Container List

- f. 1 *Ballou, Esther Williamson, 1915-1973. Tree of sins.*, Sept. 1960 ([10] leaves of ms. music (photocopy).)
Ballet. Section I for piano and percussion; sections II, IV, and V for piano; section III for soprano unaccompanied. Contents: Pride -- Envy -- Sloth -- Lust -- Anger.
- f. 2 *Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965. Deirdre of the sorrows.*, 1948? ([5] folded leaves of ms. music (photocopy).)
Ballet for piano. Based on an idea from the play by J. M. Synge.
- f. 3 *Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965. A full moon in March.*, 1950 (4, 10 folded leaves of ms. music (photocopy); 1 ms. score (9 folded leaves), (photocopy).)
Ballet. Section 1 and 2 for piano, section 3 for baritone or low tenor voice or horn or violoncello or trombone and piano. Based on an idea from the play by W. B. Yeats. Contents: Prologue -- Strangers entrance and main dance -- Song dance from A full moon in March.
- c. JPB 82-5 *Cowell, Henry, 1897-1965. Madman's wisp.*, 1949 (4 leaves of ms. music. Holograph in ink.)
Ballet for piano.
The following item has been cataloged separately:
- f. 4 *Fetler, Paul. It will be night* 1946? (8 leaves of ms. music (photocopy).)
Ballet for piano. Based on an idea from lines by Kenneth Fearing.
- f. 5 *Gilbert, Ralph. Pavane.*, 1947 (Holograph, signed (photocopy).)
- f. 6 *Horst, Louis. [La danse des mortes]* 1949? (12 leaves of ms. music.)
Photocopy with emendations in pencil. Ballet for piano. Title from Lippincott's note.
- f. 7 *Horst, Louis. Hot Sunday* 1944 ([3] leaves of ms. music (photocopy).)
Ballet for piano.
- f. 8 *Horst, Louis. My own true love* 1953? (6, [1] leaves of ms. music.)
Photocopy with emendations in pencil. Ballet for piano. Caption title. Title on note: If love were love. Dance became a trio with title: *The love-quickened heart*; later title: *Ghosts of the heart*.
- f. 9 *Horst, Louis. Three South American dances* 1946? (2, [2], 4-7 leaves of ms. music.)
Sections 1 and 3 in photocopy; section 2 in ink and pencil. Ballet for piano. Caption title. Title on Lippincott's note: *Invitacion*.
- f. 10 *Janowitz, Otto. Holy Thursday (William Blake)* 1946? (1 ms. score (9 leaves).)
Holograph, signed (photocopy). Ballet for piano and soprano soloist. Title on Lippincott's note: *Twas on a Holy Thursday*.
- f. 11 *Miller, Freda D. Drama in space.*, Oct. 1949 (5 leaves of ms. music.)
Photocopy. Ballet for piano.
- f. 12 *Miller, Freda D. Duo.*, Nov. 1945 ([7] leaves of ms. music.)
Photocopy with emendations in red pencil. Ballet for piano. Title on Lippincott's note and elsewhere on music: Duo. Caption title: *Duet*.
- f. 13 *Miller, Freda D. Reaction : A time for tears.*, June 1945 ([3] leaves of ms. music (photocopy).)
Ballet for piano. Title from Lippincott's note. Caption title: Dance : Reaction : A time for tears.
- f. 14 *Nowak, Lionel, 1911- Dances of dedication (celebration)* 1948? (14 leaves of ms. music (photocopy).)
Ballet for piano. Title on Lippincott's note: *Dance of dedication*.
- f. 15 *Nowak, Lionel, 1911- The devil is loneliness* 1947? (10, [1] leaves of ms. music (photocopy).)
Ballet for piano. Based on an idea from lines by Elma Lobaugh concerning the loneliness of an Appalachian woman working in Detroit automobile plant during World War II. Lines spoken by the dancer. On Lippincott's note: Piano score commissioned by Lionel Nowack [sic].

- f. 16 *Spong, Paul. [Portraits from Façade]* 1964? (6, 5, 4, 3 leaves of ms. music
(photocopy).)

Ballet for piano. Based on *Façade* by Edith Sitwell. Lines spoken by dancer and musician. Title from Lippincott's note. Contents: Through gilded trellises -- Black Mrs. Behemoth -- Madam Mouse Trots -- Lily O'Grady.