

Related Newberry Collection Materials

Ruth Page: Creating Shakespeare through Dance

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

How to Use Our Collection

The Newberry welcomes researchers into the reading rooms who are at least 14 years old or in the ninth grade. Creating a free reader account and requesting collection items takes just a few minutes. Please visit <https://requests.newberry.org> to begin the registration process and to start exploring our collection; when you arrive at the Newberry for research, a free reader card will be issued to you in our third-floor reference center. For further information about our collection and public programs, please visit www.newberry.org.

Primary Sources at the Newberry Library

Ruth Page Papers, 1892-1997

Personal papers of Ruth Page that remained at the Ruth Page Center for Dance until the bulk of it was transferred to the Newberry in 2014. Materials include correspondence, choreographic and technical notes, address books, programs, press clippings and scrapbooks, journals writings, photographs, business records, audio recordings, and musical scores. Featured dance works include *The Bells*, *Carmen*, *Nutcracker*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Frankie and Johnny*, and *Billy Sunday*.

http://mms.newberry.org/xml/xml_files/Page.xml

Ruth Page Foundation Records, 1989-2013

Records of the Ruth Page Foundation, The Newberry's neighbor at 1016 N. Dearborn Street and a cultural non-profit organization committed to the education, promotion, and presentation of dance in Chicago. Founded by Ruth Page in 1970, the Foundation continues to support a number of dance initiatives. Includes administrative, personnel, financial, and publicity materials for both the Foundation and the Ruth Page School of Dance.

http://mms.newberry.org/xml/xml_files/PageFoundation.xml

Ann Barzel Dance Research Collection, ca. 1830-2010

Materials collected by dance critic Ann Barzel, documenting the history of dance in Chicago and worldwide. Research collection includes brochures and other publicity, newsclippings, programs, souvenir books, audiovisual material, posters and prints, photographs, scrapbooks, and artifacts. There is a sizeable representation of Ruth Page's work, as well as a pair of toe shoes that Page received from Anna Pavlova in 1917 and subsequently gave to Barzel.

http://mms.newberry.org/xml/xml_files/BarzelResearch.xml

Sheila Malkind Photographs Collection, 1982-2001

Malkind, a Chicago photojournalist, was the director of the Ruth Page Foundation from 1981 to 1992. In this capacity, she came to know many members of the Chicago dance community, including individuals such as Ann Barzel, Katherine Dunham, Larry Long, and Maria Tallchief. Her photographs are primarily candid shots of dancers and dance companies in Chicago: notable subjects include the individuals mentioned above, as well as Mikhail Baryshnikov, Dame Margot Fonteyn, and Rudolph Nureyev. Additional photographs document Ruth Page Foundation activities and a variety of formal, informal, and street gatherings, as well as photographs of Lincoln Park in every season. The collection also includes published feature articles that Malkind wrote for the Lerner newspapers, the Chicago Reader, the Chicago Sun-Times, and the Chicago Tribune.

http://mms.newberry.org/xml/xml_files/Malkind.xml

Stone-Camryn Studio Records, 1922-1984

Chicago's Stone-Camryn School of Ballet was founded in 1941 by established dancers Walter Camryn and Bentley Stone and became one of the most successful American schools in placing its graduates in professional companies, and in creating new generations of dance teachers. There is substantial information about the Page-Stone Ballet Company, founded by Ruth Page and Bentley Stone, with whom Ruth Page had a dancing and choreographic partnership from 1936-1952. Archives include personal and biographical material from Stone and Camryn, school records, scrapbooks, diaries, photographs, programs, clippings, and choreographic notes.

http://mms.newberry.org/xml/xml_files/StoneCamryn.xml

Primary Sources Elsewhere

Ruth Page Papers, 1956-1965, New York Public Library

A collection of items, mostly correspondence, relating to publicity and public relations for tours of Ruth Page's Chicago Opera Ballet (later called Ruth Page's International Ballet). The correspondence is chiefly between Page's first husband Thomas Hart Fisher, representing Page and the Chicago Opera Ballet, and representatives of Columbia Artists Management, Inc. Chief subjects include the compilation of press and souvenir books, the engagement of guest artists (including Kirsten Simone and Henning Kronstam), and tour publicity. Other items include sections of pressbooks, articles by Page, and copies of public testimonial to Ruth Page's cultural accomplishments. <http://archives.nypl.org/dan/19637>

Ruth Page Collection, 1918-1970, New York Public Library

Donated by Ruth Page to the New York Public Library's Dance Division in 1969, this is the largest extant collection of Ruth Page material. In addition to costume and set designs, films, photographs, clippings, scrapbooks, posters, music scores, and programs, there are approximately 42,000 individual manuscript items in the collection, arranged in 2,793 folders and 13 notebooks. <http://archives.nypl.org/dan/19658>

Ruth Page Collection, 1922-1999, Chicago Film Archives

This film collection documenting the dance legacy and artistic circle of Ruth Page is the largest collection anywhere of film and video of Ruth Page, at 406 reels of 16mm totaling 221,551 feet, plus hundreds of other film format reels, video reels, and videocassettes. Many pieces of footage are online and viewable from the CFA's website.

http://chicagofilmarchives.org/collections/index.php/Detail/Object/Show/object_id/51

Further Reading

Martin, John. *Ruth Page: An Intimate Biography*. Foreword by Margot Fonteyn. New York and Basel: Marcel Dekker, Inc., 1977. A rather extravagant and effusive biography, fun and gossipy. Martin, a close friend of Page's, also happened to be the dance critic for the New York Times from 1927-1962. **Call No. GV1785.P26 M37.**

Page, Ruth. *Page by Page*. Edited and with an Introduction by Andrew Mark Wentink. Brooklyn: Dance Horizons, 1978. This is less an autobiography and more a collection of short and amusing essays with titles such as "My Side of the Footlights," "Seagulls and Swans," and "I Hate You, Yves St. Laurent." Ruth Page was a colorful writer and led quite a glamorous life. Many of these essays are also in the Works series of the Newberry's Ruth Page Papers (above), along with even more interesting, unpublished ones. **Call No. GV1785.P26 A36.**

For a more factual biographical timeline of Page's life and career, see the chronology at the New York Public Library's finding aid for the Ruth Page Collection, <http://archives.nypl.org/dan/19658>.