Robert Laune Collection

Inventory Prepared by Jessie Hopper

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Collection Summary

Repository: Ballets Russes Archives at the University of Oklahoma School of Dance
Collection: Roberta Laune
Title: Roberta Laune Collection
Dates: 1930-2012
Bulk Dates: 1949-1952
Quantity: 2 digital folders

Abstract:
Roberta Laune, an American ballerina, was a dancer with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo. Her collection contains photographs, newspaper articles and a performance program from her time with the company.

Identification: RL-024

Biographical Note

Born in Los Angeles, California, Roberta Laune decided she wanted to dance with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo at the age of eight when she first saw them perform. At twelve, after recovering from a life-threatening illness, she continued her studies with Theodore Kosloff, Maria Baldina, and Bronislava Nijinska. In 1949, Mme. Nijinska invited Sergei Denham and Alexandra Danilova to her studio to see Roberta dance. Subsequently she auditioned for Frederic Franklin, who invited her to join the Ballet Russe, thus fulfilling her childhood dreams. During the next three years, she graduated from corps de ballet to a demi-soloist in many ballets, including Coppelia, Swan Lake, Scheherazade, Paquita, and Raymonda. She worked on the Jimmy Durante Show as well as with the Louis Dance Trio. She danced in Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas. She then worked as a television editor for BSAP at ABC television.

Scope and Content Note

The Roberta Laune collection contains photographs, newspaper articles and a performance program.

Organization of the Roberta Laune Collection

Photographs
Performance Program
Newspaper Articles
Restrictions

Restriction of Access
The Roberta Laune Collection is currently unavailable to researchers. When the Ballets Russes Archive is open to researchers, the collection will be open to researchers without restrictions.

Index Terms
The following are selected search terms used in the collection

- Ballet -- 1940-1950
- Ballet -- 1950-1960
- Ballet dancers--1940-1950
- Ballet dancers--1950-1960
- Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo
- Laune, Roberta
- Newspaper Article
- Performance Program
- Photograph

Administrative Information

Provenance
The collection was donated by Roberta Laune in 2007.

Processing History
The Roberta Laune collection was processed by the Archive in 2010. The collection was databased by Jessie Hopper in 2012.
Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Box 1

Folder  Digital Photographs

1

| RL-024-DP001 | Alice Murer, Victor Mereno, and Roberta Luane in costume for Scheherazade |
| RL-024-DP002 | Roberta Laune and Bernice Rehner performing Paquita |
| RL-024-DP003 | Group shot of 4 female dancers performing Paquita |
| RL-024-DP004 | Group shot of four couples performing Graduation Ball |
| RL-024-DP005 | Group shot of 6 female dancers and 1 male dancer performing Giselle |
| RL-024-DP006 | Group shot of 7 female dancers performing Mute Wife |
| RL-024-DP007 | Full-length professional portrait of Roberta Laune in Paquita |
| RL-024-DP008 | Full-length professional portrait of Roberta Laune in Les Elves |
| RL-024-DP009 | Full-length professional portrait of Roberta Laune in Les Elves |
| RL-024-DP010 | Full-length professional portrait of Roberta Laune in Birthday |
| RL-024-DPR011 | NataLee and Roberta Laune in costume backstage |

Folder  Performance Program

2

| RL_024_DM001 | 1949 December 2 |
| Performance program from December 2, 1949 |

Folder  Newspaper Articles

3

| RL_024_DM002 | 1951 August 16 |
| “Ballet Group Arrives” newspaper article with photo in front of the train |
| RL_024_DM003 | 1950 December 8; 1952 July 4; |
| “Official Visit”, “Roberta Laune” and one other piece |
| RL_024_DM004 | 1952 June 24 |
| “Greek Theater Marquees July 9;” “Greek Theater opening aids Exceptional Children;” “Grace and Beauty” Articles |
| RL_024_DM005 | “Dance, Ballerina” article with photo |