

Marquis George de Cuevas:

A Preliminary Inventory of His Dance Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Cuevas, George de, marquis, 1886-1961
Title:	Marquis George de Cuevas Dance Collection
Dates:	1913-1962
Extent:	8 boxes (3.36 linear feet)
Abstract:	Marquis George de Cuevas, ballet impresario and choreographer, was born in Santiago, Chile in 1884. In 1927, he married Margaret Strong, granddaughter of John D. Rockefeller, and was the founder and director of Ballet Institute (1943) and Ballet International.
Call Number:	Performing Arts Collection PA-00162
Language:	English, French, and Spanish
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition:	Compiled by Theatre Arts staff from the William H. Crain Collection
Processed by:	Valerie Burns, 2002; Eric Colleary and Grace Hansen, 2015
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Biographical Sketch

Marquis George de Cuevas, ballet impresario and choreographer, was born in Santiago, Chile in 1884. In 1927, he married Margaret Strong, granddaughter of John D. Rockefeller, and was the founder and director of Ballet Institute (1943) and Ballet International. De Cuevas took over the company of Nouveau Ballet de Monte Carlo, changed its name to Grand Ballet de Monte Carlo, and brought to Europe such American dancers as Rosella Hightower, Marjorie Tallchief, William Dollar, and others. In 1950, the company became Le Grand Ballet du Marquis de Cuevas, and in its final years, International Ballet of the Marquis de Cuevas. On March 30, 1958, he famously challenged ballet choreographer Serge Lifar to a public duel with swords, due to a disagreement over the ballet *Suite en Blanc*. De Cuevas died in Cannes in 1961.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains materials relating to George de Cuevas and his dance companies, ca. 1944-1962. It is divided into the following series: I. Articles & Periodicals; II. Business Records; III. Clippings; IV. Photographs, and V. Programs.

Included are a number of articles and review clippings, business records including press releases, and handbills, programs, and posters for performances. Especially notable are the photographs, which include publicity shots as well as production photographs that feature images of the entire company.

Related Material

The Dance Collection contains several playbills and posters for Marquis de Cuevas' Grand Ballet de Monte Carlo.

Series I. Articles & Periodicals, 1913-1950

Subseries A. Articles, 1913-1955

L'Apres-Midi d'un Faune, *Illustrated London News*, 22 February 1913**Container**
1.1Backstage at the Paris Opera, *Picture Post*, 25 May 1946Balanchine and Co., *Town and Country*, March 1952Ballet: Beautiful but It's Work, *New York Journal-American*, 18 March 1952Ballet Impresario, *New York Post Magazine*, 20 May 1958**Container 1.2**Ballet of the Paris Opera, *Cue*, 11 September 1948Ballet Trains New Talent, *New York Sun*, 22 December 1944Crisis in Marquis de Cuevas' Cuff Culture, *The American Weekly*, 6 May 1945Dali - Crazy Like a Fox, *Look*, June 1947**Container 1.3**Dance Little Lady, *Mademoiselle*, August 1944Day With Salvador Dali, *Picture Post*, 8 January 1955From Diaghileff to De Carlo in Two Decades, *Dance*, November 1950**Container**
1.4Grand Ballet de Monte Carlo, *Park Avenue Social Review*, Summer 1950The Grand Ballet du [sic] Monte Carlo, *London Dancing Times*, June 1948The Grand Ballet du Marquis de Cuevas, *Dance*, November 1950The Last Magic is Big Business, *Mademoiselle*, October 1950

Marquis de Cuevas Ballet Makes U. S. Debut, undated

Container 1.5Marquis de Cuevas Presents his Ballet, *Cue*, 28 Oct 1950Marquis de Cuevas to Bring Grand Ballet de Monte Carlo to America, *Dance*, June 1950Pas de Cuevas, *Town & Country*, undated**Container 1.6**Practically Anybody can Become a Ballet Dancer, *Good Housekeeping*, August 1955

Samba, *Picture Post*, 30 November 1946

Scheherezade, *Picture Post*, 30 August 1947

Shoes for a Ballerina, *Picture Post*, 27 October 1951

A Whiff of Paris, *Picture Post*, 31 July 1948

Miscellaneous dance articles

Container 1.7

Subseries B. Periodicals, 1944-1960

Ballet, 1948

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Cue, 1948

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Dance, 1945

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Dance, 1950

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Dance and Dancers, 1950

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Dance and Dancers, 1950

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Dance News, 1944

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Dance News, 1948

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Dance News, 1955

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Noir et Blanc 1948

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Park Avenue Social Review, 1950

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Grumiaux, Arthur (music)	Container 2.12
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