Finding Aid to the Hubert Julian Stowitts Papers

Bancroft Staff
The Bancroft Library

2018
The Bancroft Library
University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720-6000
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URL: http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/libraries/bancroft-library
Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: The Bancroft Library

Title: Hubert Julian Stowitts papers

creator: Stowitts, Hubert Julian

Identifier/Call Number: BANC MSS 2012/165

Physical Description: 5 linear feet (2 cartons, 5 boxes, 4 volumes)

Date (inclusive): approximately 1913-1953

Abstract: The papers of American dancer and painter Hubert Julian Stowitts, including biographical materials, correspondence, and exhibition/performance related materials.

Physical Location: Many of the Bancroft Library collections are stored offsite and advance notice may be required for use. For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.

Conditions Governing Access
Collection is open for research.

Accruals
No future additions are expected.

Immediate Source of Acquisition
The Hubert Julian Stowitts papers were gifted to the Bancroft Library by Nancy McGie and Susan Reed in 2012.

Biographical / Historical
Hubert Julian Stowitts was born in Rushville, Nebraska on June 26, 1892. His family later moved to California and eventually settled in Los Angeles. Stowitts attended the University of California, Berkeley, where he graduated in 1915, and where he first began to study dance. While performing in Berkeley's Greek Theatre, he was discovered and recruited by Anna Pavlova of the Ballets Russes. He became one of the star dancers of the company, performing in various productions until the early 1920s. After a brief career as a solo dancer, Stowitts retired from ballet and began to pursue other interests, including figure painting, choreography, costume and set design, motion picture performance, travel and traditional dance of other cultures. His scholarly studies and painted depictions of traditional Indonesian and Indian dance and costume enjoyed wide popularity in the 1930s. In 1936, while in Berlin accompanying an exhibition of his figure paintings of American Olympic athletes, Stowitts assisted Leni Reifenstahl on her documentary Olympia. Riefenstahl protected Stowitts from persecution for being gay, but his exhibition was closed by the Nazi regime because of their objection to the manner in which Stowitts depicted Jewish and African-American athletes. Stowitts continued to lecture on Indian and Javanese culture and to paint privately for the remainder of his life. Hubert Julian Stowitts died in San Marino, California on February 8, 1953.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Hubert Julian Stowitts papers, MSS 2012/165, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Processing Information
Processed by the Bancroft Library Staff in 2012.

Scope and Contents
The collection consists of personalia, correspondence, writings, exhibition and performance related materials, and assorted other items. Correspondence is mostly from the 1930s and 1940s.

Separated Materials
Pictorial materials were transferred to the Pictorial Collections of the Bancroft Library (BANC PIC 2012.116). One manuscript item, a 1605 document from the Inquisition in Peru (gifted to Stowitts) was removed from the collection for separate cataloging.

Conditions Governing Use
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Subjects and Indexing Terms
Stowitts, Hubert Julian
Pavlova, Anna
Artists--California
Painters--United States
Dancers
University of California, Berkeley -- Alumni and alumnæ.
Gay artists
Dance--20th century

Series 1. Personalia

Carton 1, Folder 1
Biographical materials
Articles about Stowitts
Articles about Stowitts 1927
Scope and Contents
Issue of French women's magazine, Femina, with articles on Stowitts' Parisian studio.

Carton 1, Folder 3
Estate materials 1955
Box 3, Folder 7
Passport 1922
Carton 1, Folder 4
Passport 1930
Carton 1, Folder 5
Horoscopes undated
Carton 1, Folder 6-9
Address books and mailing list approximately 1930-1950
Carton 1, Folder 10
UC Berkeley documents 1913-1914

Series 2. Correspondence

Carton 1, Folder 11-16
Incoming 1910-1953 undated
Carton 1, Folder 17-20
Outgoing 1930-1953 undated
Carton 1, Folder 21
Regarding Tragic Duse approximately 1940-1949
Carton 1, Folder 22
Letters to Sister Bernice approximately 1930-1939
Carton 1, Folder 23-38
Letters to mother 1916-1936
Carton 1, Folder 39
Unidentified letters approximately 1930-1950

Series 3. Writings

Carton 1, Folder 40-41
Manuscript: Adventures in India 1931
Carton 1, Folder 42
Manuscript: The "Arkos" Plan for Post-War Employment undated
Carton 1, Folder 43
Manuscript: Arkos, A Practical Youth Movement and Center for a World Renaissance in Culture thru the Youth of America undated
Carton 1, Folder 44
Manuscript: Arkos: The American Renaissance undated
Carton 1, Folder 45
Manuscript: Arkos undated
Carton 2, Folder 1-3
Manuscript: The Golden Age of Ballet undated
Carton 2, Folder 4
Manuscript: The Court Costumes of China undated
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carton, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 5</td>
<td>Manuscript: The Javanese Theatre undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 6</td>
<td>Assorted manuscript material relating to the Javanese theatre undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 7-8</td>
<td>Manuscript: Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 9</td>
<td>Manuscript: The Key to the Culture of Indonesia undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 10-12</td>
<td>Manuscript: Vanishing India undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 13</td>
<td>Manuscript: Industry's Debt to India undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 14</td>
<td>Manuscripts and notes: assorted on metaphysical ideas undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 15</td>
<td>Manuscripts and notes: assorted undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 16</td>
<td>Published writings: assorted 1929-1930</td>
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Series 4. Exhibits/Performances

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Carton, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 17</td>
<td>Dance and art exhibit programs and other ephemera approximately 1920-1945</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 18</td>
<td>Reviews approximately 1931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 19</td>
<td>Clippings approximately 1930-1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 1</td>
<td>Clippings approximately 1930-1940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 20</td>
<td>The Golden Age of the Ballet, assorted approximately 1948-1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 21</td>
<td>American Champions approximately 1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 22-23</td>
<td>Vanishing India approximately 1931-1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>Scrapbook (mostly Vanishing India) approximately 1931-1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4</td>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1, Folder 3-6</td>
<td>Mostly articles and ephemera from the Vanishing India exhibit.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Contents

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 7</td>
<td>Issues of the London Illustrated News with articles on Stowitts' India paintings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 7</td>
<td>American Champions approximately 1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 7</td>
<td>Manuscript of review of Javanese Theatre Paintings by Hubert Stowitts at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington undated</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Series 5. Miscellany

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Carton, Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carton 2, Folder 24</td>
<td>Materials on Anna Pavlova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 2</td>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 3</td>
<td>Includes an inscribed copy of &quot;I Shall Always Love the West: Impressions of the Incomparable Anna Pavlova&quot; by J. Paget-Fredericks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volume 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 7</td>
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Finding Aid to the Hubert Julian Stowitts Papers  
BANC MSS 2012/165  
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volume 1
Carton 2,
Folder 26
Box 3, Folder 7
Carton 2,
Folder 27
Carton 2,
Folder 28
Box 3, Folder 2-6
Carton 2,
Folder 29
Box 2

Book: Anna Pavlova by V. Svetloff 1922
Drawings undated

Unidentified costume sketches undated
Travel book on Java approximately 1930

1932 Olympiad ephemera 1932

Los Angeles Times Olympic Games sections 1932
Assorted approximately 1925-1945

Zensurkopie: American Athletes by Hubert Stowitts January 14, 1937

Physical Description: 1 Reels 35 mm film reel