

Alpheus Koon papers

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GLBT Historical Society

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2021

Descriptive Summary

Title: Alpheus Koon papers

Dates: circa 1938-1977

Collection Number: 2019-80

Creator/Collector:

Extent: .2 linear feet (1 half manuscript box)

Repository: GLBT Historical Society

San Francisco, California 94103

Abstract: The collection includes material related to ballet dancer Alpheus Koon, including World War II-era correspondence from Koon's friends, family, and lovers. From the correspondence, Koon appears to have been in intimate relationships with several of the male correspondents. Material dates from circa 1938-1977, with the bulk of the material dated in the 1940s.

Language of Material: English

Access

Collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation

Alpheus Koon papers. GLBT Historical Society

Acquisition Information

Gift of Christopher Chase, September 2019.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection includes material related to ballet dancer Alpheus Koon, including World War II-era correspondence from Koon's friends, family, and lovers. From the correspondence, Koon appears to have been in intimate relationships with several of the male correspondents. Material dates from circa 1938-1977, with the bulk of the material dated in the 1940s. Materials include photographs, correspondence, ephemera, and clippings. Major subjects include WWII, dance and ballet. Alpheus Koon (1918-1969) was a ballet dancer who was a soloist for the American Ballet Theater from 1941-1945 and artistic director of the Tampa Civic Ballet from 1953-1963. Before the American Ballet Theater, he had danced with the St. Louis Municipal Opera; afterwards and before his work in Tampa, he performed with the Original Ballet Russe and at Radio City Music Hall. Koon, a doctor's son, had also been a pre-med student at the University of Tennessee. He contributed to Grace Robert's Borzoi Book of Ballets. GSSO Linked Terms: http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/GSSO_004299; http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/GSSO_008536; http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/GSSO_000374

Indexing Terms

Dance

World War, 1939-1945

Gay men
