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## **Finding Aid for the Elyse Robert collection on Ruth St. Denis, 1932-1991**

Processed by Kelley Wolfe Bachli in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT), 2009; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.

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Manuscripts Division

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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Elyse Robert collection on Ruth St. Denis

**Date (inclusive):** 1932-1991

**Collection number:** 1735

**Creator:** St. Denis, Ruth

**Extent:** 1 document box (.5 linear feet)3 oversize costume boxes.

**Abstract:** Elyse Robert (1901-1993) danced for Ruth St. Denis' Church of the Divine Dance between 1934 and 1968. During this time, Robert performed with Ruth St. Denis (1880-1968), a pioneer of modern dance, for many events and in numerous churches in the Los Angeles area. Collection includes dance costumes, correspondence, programs, photographs, and notes about Ruth St. Denis performances.

**Language:** Finding aid is written in English.

**Repository:** University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.  
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

**Physical location:** Box 4 stored off-site at SRLF. Boxes 1-3 stored on-site. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

### **Restrictions on Access**

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

### **Restrictions on Use and Reproduction**

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### **Provenance/Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Mark Robert, 2006.

### **Processing Note**

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### **Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Elyse Robert collection on Ruth St. Denis (Collection 1735). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

### **UCLA Catalog Record ID**

UCLA Catalog Record ID: [6424560](#)

### **Biography**

Elyse Robert (1901-1993) danced for Ruth St. Denis' Church of the Divine Dance between 1934 and 1968. During this time, Robert performed with Ruth St. Denis (1880-1968), a pioneer of modern dance, for many events and in numerous churches in the Los Angeles area.

### **Scope and Content**

Collection includes material by and about Elyse Robert and Ruth St. Denis, including correspondence, programs, photographs, and notes about Ruth St. Denis dances and costumes. Boxes 1-3 in the collection contain costumes that belonged to Elyse Robert and were probably used in her dance performance with Ruth St. Denis. Box 4 contains photographs of dancers, newspaper clippings, programs, and dance choreography.

1. Boxes 1-3: costumes that belonged to Elyse Robert and were probably used in her dance performance with Ruth St. Denis.
2. Box 4: photographs of dancers, newspaper clippings, programs, and dance choreography.

### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

### **Subjects**

Elyse Robert.

Ruth St. Denis

### **Related Material**

Box 1, Folder 1	<b>White floor length, long sleeve gown with weighted bottom hem undated</b> <b>Note</b> Boxes 1-3 are stored in the B-level stacks on top of Rare Books, Range 15.
Box 1, Folder 2	<b>Two cream colored floor length capes with tassles undated</b> <b>Note</b> Boxes 1-3 are stored in the B-level stacks on top of Rare Books, Range 15.
Box 2, Folder 1	<b>Blue sari with silver ribbon trim undated</b> <b>Note</b> Boxes 1-3 are stored in the B-level stacks on top of Rare Books, Range 15.
Box 2, Folder 2	<b>White floor length, long sleeve gown with weighted bottom hem undated</b> <b>Note</b> Boxes 1-3 are stored in the B-level stacks on top of Rare Books, Range 15.
Box 2, Folder 3	<b>Two cream colored long sleeve, v-neck gowns undated</b> <b>Note</b> Boxes 1-3 are stored in the B-level stacks on top of Rare Books, Range 15.
Box 3, Folder 1	<b>Six rope belts, one crochet skull cap, one crochet scarf, and one beaded crown undated</b> <b>Note</b> Boxes 1-3 are stored in the B-level stacks on top of Rare Books, Range 15.
Box 3, Folder 2	<b>Cream colored floor length, long sleeve, scoop neck gown undated</b> <b>Note</b> Boxes 1-3 are stored in the B-level stacks on top of Rare Books, Range 15.
Box 3, Folder 3	<b>Cream colored floor length, zip-up gown undated</b> <b>Note</b> Boxes 1-3 are stored in the B-level stacks on top of Rare Books, Range 15.
Box 4, Folder 1	<b>Photographs of Ruth St. Denis and other dancers. Many of the photographs are inscribed to Elyse Robert. 29 photographs and 2 negatives. 1932 -1952, 1991, and undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 2	<b>Photocopies of photographs of Ruth St. Denis and other dancers. undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 3	<b>Newspaper clippings of advertisements and article critiques about Ruth St. Denis performances 1945 March - 1954 December</b>
Box 4, Folder 4	<b>Poems, some by Ruth St. Denis, many unattributed undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 5	<b>Correspondence to Elyse Robert 1940, 1991, and undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 6	<b>Dance choreography undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 7	<b>Ruth St. Denis and Elyse Robert dance programs 1945-1957</b>
Box 4, Folder 8	<b>Writings by Ruth St. Denis and Elyse Robert 1947 and undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 9	<b>Religious images, pamphlets and printed material 1962 and undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 10	<b>Society of Spiritual Arts programs and informational handout undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 11	<b>Scrapbook of poems, hand written programs, clipping, and Winter 1993 issue of Sacred Dance Guild Journal 1993 and undated</b>
Box 4, Folder 12	<b>Elyse Robert obituary and 2 photographs undated</b>