



Guide to the Valeria Ladd Papers 1919-1985

Archives and Special Collections
Library and Research Center
National Museum of Women in the Arts

Re-processed by Patrick Brown
August 2006
0.5 linear feet; 1 container

Biography

Valeria Ladd lived in New York, NY for a time. She painted in both oils and watercolor. Her watercolors have a high degree of abstraction, mainly figure or group subjects, while her oils are more scraps of paper or cloth, which seem to drift in the air against various colored skies.

Her dance is how she is known best. She directed a group around 1919 and had another group in 1950 called the Valeria Ladd Dancing Players. She also worked for the Noyes School of Rhythm Foundation, based in Portland, CT at some point.

She died in 1984.

Chronology

No chronology listed.

Scope and Content

While this one box collection does not give a comprehensive view of the artist, Valeria Ladd's various artistic interests of painting, poetry, and dance.

The first series consists of photographs of Ladd, homes, a small child with a kitten, and a few other prints of Ladd's friends or family. The second series, Award & Ephemera, includes one award, an exhibition postcard, a clipping from Art News, and several dance programs. The third series contains letters from Ladd to her mother while she was in Europe. These letters have been placed in mylar sleeves. The fourth series is a passport, which Ladd used to travel to Greece with her performance group. The last series are two notebooks with Ladd's poetry.

The collection is divided into five series:

Series I:	Photographs, 1933-1981
Series II:	Award & Ephemera, 1919-1980
Series III:	Correspondence, 1985
Series IV:	Passport, 1955
Series V:	Notebook, 1941-1958

Provenance

Unknown.

Series Descriptions

Series I: Photographs

This series contains photographs of Ladd, homes, a small child with a kitten, and a few other prints of Ladd's friends or family.

Series II: Award & Ephemera

This series includes one award, an exhibition postcard, a clipping from Art News, and several dance programs.

Series III: Correspondence

This series contains letters from Ladd to her mother while she was in Europe. These letters have been placed in mylar sleeves.

Series IV: Passport

This series is a passport, which Ladd used to travel to Greece with her performance group.

Series V: Notebook

This series consists of two notebooks with Ladd's poetry.

Processing

The collection is contained in one box, which is located in the Library and Research Center. The first finding aid and record of the collection is from 2003. In 2006, the collection was reprocessed and re-housed in one box. The collection was separated into five series (Photographs; Award and Ephemera; Correspondence; Passport; and Notebook) and re-housed in a single, acid-free box. The notebooks are in poor condition. The text-block is detached from the cover in the notebook in folder 9. The leather cover of the notebook in folder 10 has severe red rot.

Related Materials

The Archives on Women Artists in the Library and Research Center at the National Museum of Women in the Arts maintains a vertical file on Valeria Ladd, which includes an article on Ladd.

Box Inventory

SERIES I: PHOTOGRAPHS

Box 1

1 Photographs, 1933-1981

SERIES II: AWARDS & EPHEMERA

Box 1

2 Art News, 1961
3 Panoras Gallery, 1961
4 Programs, 1919-c.1955
5 Zontra International, 1980

SERIES III: CORRESPONDENCE

Box 1

- 6 The Noyes School of Rhythm Foundation, inc, 1985
Signed Dorothy Williams Nort
- 7 "Mother," n.d.

SERIES IV: PASSPORT

Box 1

- 8 Passport, 1955

SERIES V: NOTEBOOKS

Box 1

- 9 Notebook, 1941
- 10 Notebook, c.1950-c.1958