

A Brief History of the Library and Archives

Earliest records show that in 1924, the Academy received a number of rare and valuable dance books from the estate of the late Rev. Stewart Headlam. **(Fig. 1)**

The first 'Operatic Association' Gazette, published in 1930, contained an article about the library and it's availability to members. **(Fig. 2)**

Since then the library has received regular gifts of books from donors including Mark E. Perugini, Hylda Brown, Audrey Lloyd, Beth Weyms, Ivor Guest and Philip Richardson. In the 1940s, following the introduction of the Teachers Training Course (TTC) and the purchase of Fairfield Lodge, books were acquired specifically for the 'students library'. In the 1950s Margot Fonteyn and Arnold Haskell launched an appeal for archive material through the pages of the Gazette. Haskell donated his programme collection and photographic archives to the Academy as a wedding present to Fonteyn. In 1956 Haskell's editorial in the gazette patronised the development of 'The Margot Fonteyn Archives'. **(Fig. 3)**

In 1960, Ifan Kyrle Fletcher was commissioned to provide a complete listing and valuation of the Academy's "Collection of books, Playbills, Programmes, Manuscripts, Autograph letters, Prints, Drawings, Photographs, Relics, Etc."

Following the death of Philip Richardson in 1963, the Academy received his personal library of rare and valuable dance books. A library fund was created in 1964 and the Working Committee, in April of that year, considered it "desirable that the Academy should build up a comprehensive library which would be available to serious research students," and a librarian would need to be appointed.

In 1967 the Academy purchased 'South Lodge' in Knightsbridge and Margot Fonteyn described her plans for the new building which included:

"...a small museum, where some of the many treasures in the way of costumes, programmes and photographs at present in the Academy's possession could be shown to advantage. A library, where the Stewart Headlam and Philip Richardson bequests could be housed and made available to scholars from all over the world."

(Royal Academy of Dancing Gazette, February 1968, p. 12)

Later that year, Clement Crisp is appointed as 'Honorary Librarian Archivist' and expresses his hopes of building an archive of national importance at the new Knightsbridge premises, in the Dance Gazette of Spring 1969. **(Fig. 4)**

South Lodge was sold in 1970 and new premises purchased in Battersea. The new Library at Battersea headquarters is named after Philip Richardson.

During the 1970s library stocks continued to grow and an assistant Librarian was appointed. The TTC became 'The College of the RAD' and library opening hours were extended.

In 1980 the library underwent complete re-classification and continued to expand in its activities, both providing facilities for research and in its day-to-day function as a resource for students of the college.

In 1984 the GBL Wilson bequest included his photographic archive of some 50,000 images.

In 1988 the first full-time Resident Librarian was appointed and in 1989, following major refurbishment, the Philip Richardson Library officially re-opened in a new larger space. **(Fig. 5)**

The 1990s saw the first library fees introduced and validation of the College's first degree course by the University of Durham. The Keith Lester Reading Room was completed and funds made available for books.

In 1997 a unique collection of Benesh Movement Notation scores was acquired, following the merger of the Benesh Institute with the Academy.

In 1999, services for distance-learners were introduced and Library Management software purchased to provide online library catalogue facilities. Some of the books from the Richardson Collection were sold.

By 2000, the College had become the 'Faculty of Education' and there were changes to degree, diploma and certificate programmes. The library extended its academic services for both staff and students on an increasing number of faculty programmes. The RAD launched its first website.

In 2004 the library recruited a volunteer to tackle the cataloguing of its expanding collection of theatre programmes. A new 'subscription scheme' launched in 2005, enabled books to be borrowed by external users for the first time.

Digitisation of the GBL Wilson photographic archive began in 2007, and images made available through Arenapal. The contents of various archives and special collections were added to the Library webpages.

In recent years the library has continued to acquire new resources both in support of Faculty programmes and to ensure currency of the general reference collections. The Academy archives are gradually being rationalised and work continues to provide more details about the contents of collections and improve access through digitisation.

Fig. 1

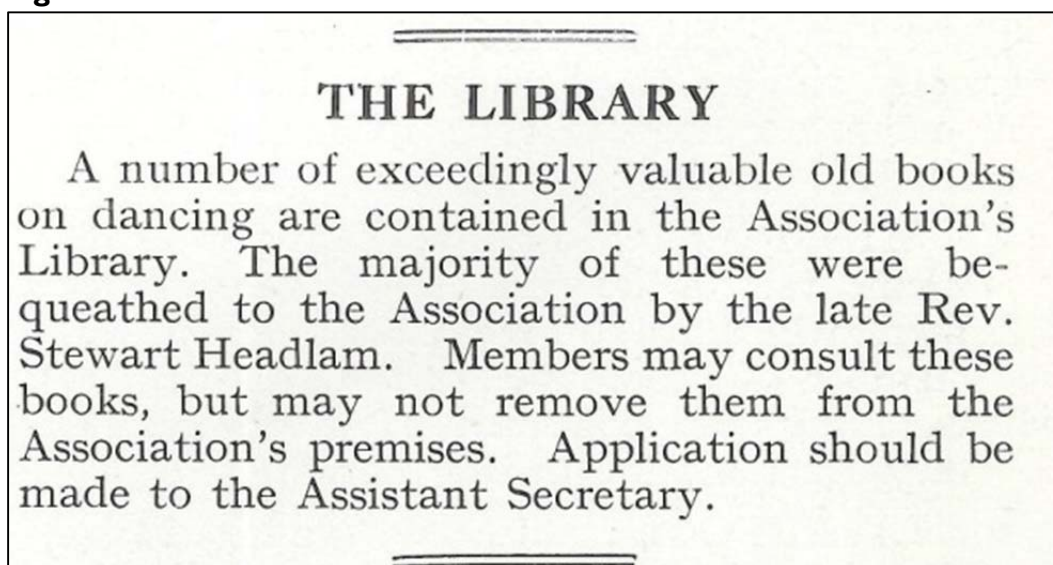
Stewart Headlam

Bequest 1925

Author	Book
1 U. Bourmonville	"Den. Danske Ballet."
2 J. Berchouse ^{musicien} (Poëme). Blasis (melan) (1820)	"La Danca" ou "Les Dieux de L'Opera"
3 C. Blasis (1828 Edt)	"Code of Terpsichore"
4 C. Blasis (1830 -)	" " " X S.L.
5 C. Blasis	"Studi sulle arti Imitatrici"
6 C. Blasis (1847 -)	"Notes upon Dancing, Historical + Practic"
7 C. Blasis (1847 -)	" " " " " "
8 M. Blasis (1830 -)	"Manuel Complet de la Danse"
9 M. Blasis (1830)	" " " " "
10 C. W. Beaumont + S. Dzjickowski	"A manual of the Theory + Practic of Classical Theatrical Dancing (méthode Beccette)"
11 Castil-Blanc.	"La Danse et les Ballets"
12 M. de Cahusac.	"La Danse ancienne et moderne" ou "Traité Historique de la Danse"
13 G. Desrat.	"Dictionnaire de la Danse"
14 M. Emmanuel. (French)	"La Danse Greque antique"
15 M. Emmanuel (English)	The Antique Greek Dance.
16 M. Emmanuel	" " " " "
17 M. Emmanuel. (Latin)	"De saltationis Disciplinæ apud Græcos"
18 F. Tertault.	"Histoire de la Danse"
19 G-A. Gallini	"a Treatise on the art of Dancing"
20 Mrs Lilly Gross + other ladies	"Dancing"
21 G. Heath.	"Beauties of the Opera + Ballet"
22 Stewart Headlam / 8dt from G. Blasis's Code of Terpsichore	"The Theory of Theatrical Dancing"
23 Troy + Marquet West Rummy.	"The Dance - its Place in art + life"
24 M. Noverre.	"Lettres sur la Danse et sur les

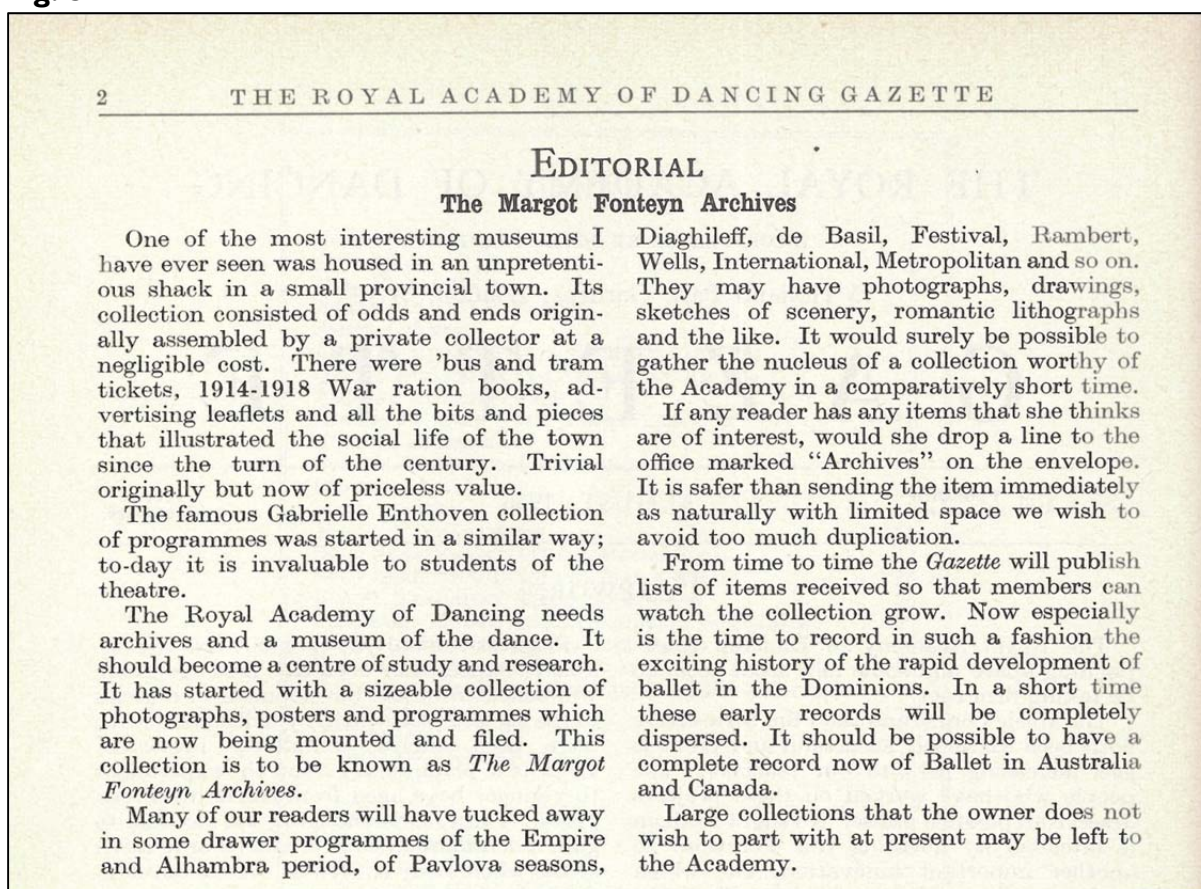
Extract from document detailing the books bequeathed to the RAD by the Reverend Stewart Headlam.

Fig. 2



Extract from page four of 'The Operatic Association Gazette' first published in November 1930.

Fig. 3



Arnold Haskell's editorial in the RAD Gazette of August 1956.

Fig. 4

AGATE, JAMES: The Amazing Circus.	15.0.
ANDERSON, MAY: Engleware Plates.	15.0.
Ballet Experiments.	10.0.
A LIST OF	
Ballet THE COLLECTIONS OF BOOKS, PLAYBILLS, PROGRAMMES,	10.0.
MANUSCRIPTS, AUTOGRAPH LETTERS, PRINTS, DRAWINGS,	
Ballet Layers' Books PHOTOGRAPHS, RELICS, ETC.	10.0.
Classical Dances and Costumes of India. 1880.	1. 1.0.
ANDERSON & DUTHIE: Scottish Country Dancing.	7.5.
at	
15 Holland Park Gardens, London, W.14.	
ANTHONY, GORDON: Ballerina. 1945.	15.0.
Ballet. 1937.	10.0.
and	
Dancers of Fairfield Lodge, Addison Road, London, W.14.	2.0.
Margot Fonteyn. 1941. Presentation copy.	15.0.
Another copy.	10.0.
the property of	
Margot Fonteyn, Camera Studios.	15.0.
Beryl Grey. 1938.	1.0.
<u>THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF DANCING</u>	
Robert Helpmann.	15.0.
Alicia Markova. 1935. (2 copies) Each 12/6.	24. 2.0.
" " " 1951.	12.0.
Sadlers Wells Ballet. 1942. Presentation copy.	1. 1.0.
Another copy.	15.0.
The Sleeping Princess. 1940. (2 copies). Each 12/10/-.	5. 0.0.
Studies of Dancers. 1948.	1.10.0.
These items are valued by me for the purpose of	
The Vic Wells Ballet. 1938. Limited to 100 copies, signed	
by the author.	2.10.0.
Another copy.	1. 1.0.
Pounds, Five Shillings and Sixpence (£1,290.5.6.)	
APPLEN, A: Stories of the Russian Ballet.	2. 2.0.
ARCHIVES INTERNATIONALES DE LA DANSE. 18 books.	6. 2.0.
L'ART DU BALLET. 1960.	15.0.
ARTISTS OF THE DANCE: 1. Trifilova 2. Ifan Kyrle Fletcher. (2	
copies) 4. Maravina, 2nd edition 7. Study of the Russian	
School. (Student's Dance Library, Vol.1)	2. 2.0.
22 Buckingham Gate,	
ASPIN, J. Co. London, S.W.1.	1. 1.0.
30th June, 1960.	
AUSLEY, JAMES: Book of Ballet. 1954.	10.0.
	227. 5.0.

Front page of the inventory document compiled by Ifan Kyrle Fletcher in 1960.

Fig. 5



David Wall and Ninette de Valois at the re-opening of the Philip Richardson Library in March 1989. Photo by Chris Davies.