This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City. If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org.

**Introduction**

The Tatiana Dokoudovska Papers consist of a single reel of microfilm containing a scrapbook of newspaper clippings, performance programs, posters, and photographs concerning the Kansas City Ballet/Kansas City Civic Ballet from 1957 to 1967. Additional materials include photographs related to spring performances between 1969 and 1970.

Tatiana Dokoudovska was born on January 13, 1921, in Beausoleil, France, to Alexis and Nadia Dokoudovska. She studied under Olga Preobrajenska, a prima ballerina of the Russian Imperial Theatre in St. Petersburg, Russia, at a young age. Dokoudovska began her professional career around the age of twelve performing in various shows, films, and operas in Russia.

Dokoudovska performed with the Ballet Russe of the Opera Comique de Paris and the Opera of Monte Carlo before traveling to the United States to perform with the Mordkin Ballet and the Ballet Theatre (now the American Ballet Theater) prior to World War II. During the war, she performed for the Radio City Ballet and the Colonel Be Dasil Original Ballet Russe. By the 1950s, Dokoudovska began performing with the Starlight Theatre and in 1954 the Conservatory of Music in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dokoudovska founded the Kansas City Ballet, renamed the Kansas City Civic Ballet (1959) in 1957. She would serve as the ballet’s artistic director and choreographer for the next twenty years. Dokoudovska retired in 1989 and passed away on September 21, 2005, and is buried at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Kansas City, Missouri.

**Donor Information**

The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Tetiana Dokoudovska on May 3, 1989 (Accession No. KA0510).

**Copyright and Restrictions**

The Donor has given and assigned to the University of Missouri all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor’s works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

**Location Note**

The collection is stored offsite and will need to be retrieved before viewing.

**Inventory**

Reel 1