

Guide to the Maria Pogee Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Pogee, Maria, 1942-
Title:	Maria Pogue Papers
ID:	MS-00383
Date [inclusive]:	1942 to 2019
Physical Description:	6.51 Cubic Feet (6 boxes, 6 oversized boxes)
Physical Description:	10.95 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	Some materials in this collection are in Spanish.
Abstract:	The Maria Pogue Papers (1942-2019) document the life and career of Argentinian born dancer, choreographer, and actress, Maria Pogue. Pogue worked extensively in Argentina, Chile, Lebanon, around the United States and in Las Vegas, Nevada. Materials include press clippings, show programs, correspondence, and photographs representing Pogue's entertainment career such as her work in the stage production of <i>Peter Pan</i> and choreography for Juliet Prowse and Shirley MacLaine. Other materials includes various unproduced show concepts with designs, storyboards, and scripts that she worked on with costume designer José Luis Viñas. Materials also include scrapbooks documenting her dance career dating from 1952 to 2009 which contain original correspondence, programs, photographs, and newsclippings. Materials also document Pogue's life and career outside of entertainment including her work directing fashion shows, operating a tourism company, and as a yoga instructor.

Preferred Citation

Maria Pogue Papers, 1942-2019. MS-00383. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1249h>

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Biographical Note

Dancer and choreographer Maria Pogue was born in Argentina in 1942 and named Elvira Maria Victoria Garcia. She started her dance training at the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, Argentina when she was seven years old and also attended the National School of Dance. Pogue appeared on television variety shows and toured the United States with the Lobato dancers. She worked with choreographer Larry Maldonado and Barry Ashton in the 1960s who came up with her professional stage name, Maria Pohji. By 1974, her professional stage name was changed to Maria Pogue.

Pogue worked as an assistant to several choreographers, directors, and producers for shows in Las Vegas, Nevada and around the United States. She worked with choreographer Jerry Jackson on the *Tony Orlando and Dawn* show at the Riviera Hotel and as an assistant to Donn Arden and Nick Navarro for *Lido de Paris* at the Stardust Hotel and Casino. Pogue also worked with dancer and actress Juliet Prowse on productions such as the *Juliet Prowse Show* at the Desert Inn Hotel and *Stars!* at Sun City Resort in South Africa. Outside of her work in Las Vegas, Pogue choreographed, directed, and performed globally for television, theatres, and cabaret. She worked as an actress in the 1972 film *Wacky Taxi* and on stage playing Tiger Lily in the 1979 Broadway production of *Peter Pan*.

In the 1980s, Pogue choreographed and directed fashion and trade shows in Las Vegas and around the United States for fashion companies like Beconta ski clothing, Sears, Inc, and Ellesse USA. In 1998, Pogue choreographed a production of the musical *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She also owned and conducted Ra-Ma Tours, a tour company dedicated to international tourism in the United States, with her husband Ruben Grinspanas from 1976 to 2006. Pogue also taught Hatha yoga for several years in addition to teaching dance classes and workshops around Las Vegas.

As of 2024, Maria Pogue lives in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Source:

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Scope and Contents Note

The Maria Pogue Papers (1942-2019) document the life and career of Argentinian born dancer, choreographer, and actress, Maria Pogue. Pogue worked extensively in Argentina, Chile, Lebanon, Las Vegas, Nevada, and around the United States. Materials include press clippings, show programs, correspondence, and photographs representing Pogue's entertainment career such

as her work in the stage production of *Peter Pan* and choreography for Juliet Prowse, Shirley MacLaine, and for a 1998 UNLV production of the *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Materials also include scrapbooks documenting her dance career dating from 1952 to 2009 which contain original correspondence, programs, photographs, and newsclippings.

The collection includes material documenting her work as a choreographer for the show *Stars!* in Sun City, South Africa, and as a producer for a ski wear fashion show called *Ellesse*. Other material includes various unproduced show concepts with designs, storyboards, and scripts that she worked on with costume designer José Luis Viñas. Other files focus on her work for Ra-Ma Tours, which she co-owned with her husband, Ruben Grinspanas and training materials that document Pogue's experiences as a yoga instructor. Lastly, the collection includes examples of her Spanish-language poetry and copies of her artwork.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged by topic.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests; please contact UNLV Special Collections and Archives for additional information.

Publication Rights

This material is made available to facilitate private study, scholarship, or research. Maria Cecilia Garcia transferred all right, title and interest they had in the Maria Pogue Papers (MS-00383) to UNLV. However, the material may be protected by copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity rights, or other interests not owned by UNLV. Users are responsible for determining whether permissions are necessary from rights owners for any intended use and for obtaining all required permissions. Acknowledgement of the UNLV University Libraries is requested. For more information, please see the UNLV Special Collections policies on reproduction and use (https://www.library.unlv.edu/speccol/research_and_services/reproductions) or contact us at special.collections@unlv.edu.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Materials were donated in 2024 by Maria Cecilia Garcia; accession number 2024-023.

Appraisal

Acquired by Su Kim Chung, curator, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives holdings in entertainment. 0.10 linear feet of material that contained financial and personally identifiable information was removed and securely disposed during processing.

Processing Information

In 2024, Sarah Jones accessioned the collection and created the finding aid in ArchivesSpace. In 2024, Tammi Kim rehoused the collection, organized the materials, and created the inventory in ArchivesSpace.

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Names and Subjects

- Dancers
- Choreographers
- Entertainment
- photographs

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Dance, choreography, and acting papers	
Names and Subjects:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choreography• Dancers• Prowse, Juliet, 1936-1996• Viñas, José Luis• MacLaine, Shirley, 1934-	
<i>Peter Pan</i> press clippings, <i>Dance Magazine</i> featuring Maria Pogue, sheet music book, playbills, and program, 1979 to 1983	box 01
Physical Description: 3 Files	oversized folder 3
Physical Description: 1 Files oversized folder	box 11
Maria Pogue's swing bible for <i>Stars!</i> show, approximately 1982	box 01
<i>Stars!</i> newspaper clippings, 1983	

	oversized folder 4 box 11
Publicity stills from <i>Wacky Taxi</i> featuring John Astin and Maria Pogue, 1972	box 01
Letter to Bernard Rothman regarding Pogue's appearance in the 1977 television special "Once Upon a Brothers Grimm", 2007	box 01
Magazine and newspaper clippings featuring Maria Pogue/Elvira Garcia, 1958 to 1974 Physical Description: 4 Files Language of the Material: Spanish	box 01
Liberace in Sun City (South Africa) newspaper clipping, programs featuring Juliet Prowse and Shirley MacLaine, Juliet Prowse photographic print, approximately 1979 to 1983	box 01
Newspaper and press clippings about Maria Pogue, Juliet Prowse, and Shirley MacLaine, approximately 1972 to 1984	box 01
Juliet Prowse show programs, photographic prints, newspaper clippings about Prowse's death, and sympathy cards to Pogue, approximately 1973 to 2008	box 01
Gypsy Awards program featuring Juliet Prowse, 1996	box 01
Newspaper clippings about Las Vegas entertainment, <i>Dirt Alert</i> featuring the Gypsy Awards, 1972, 1996	oversized folder 8 box 11
Newspaper clippings about the death of Dean Martin, 1995	box 01
Show programs featuring Maria Pohji, Vest and Clark show program, approximately 1963 to 1970 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 01
Press clippings about Maria Pogue's career, 1960 to 1995 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 01 oversized folder 2 box 11
Spanish translation of <i>Las Vegas Sun</i> article about Maria Pogue, Kennedy Foundation Latin American Institute certificate, 1972 to 1974	box 01
Celebrity and Maria Pogue headshots; programs for <i>Sweet Charity</i> , <i>Stars!</i> , and the Eddie Fisher show, approximately 1964 to 1983	box 02
Maria Pogue portrait: photographic print, approximately 1978 to 1989	oversized folder 1 box 11
<i>Vive Les Girls</i> show programs, 1966	box 02
Liberace Rehearsal Studio I flier advertising Maria Pogue's jazz classes, approximately 1998	box 02
Maria Pogue headshots, with friends, and rehearsals: photographic prints, approximately 1970 to 2008	box 02
<i>Dance</i> magazine annual directories, 1963 to 1968	box 02

Maria Pogue's biographical information and dancing and acting experiences, approximately 1970 to 2012	box 02
"El Amor Brujo" presented by the Las Vegas Symphony Orchestra program, 1985	box 02
American Dance Company programs and flier, 1998	box 02
Maria Pogue's dance and choreography related biographies and media for "Superstars of Dance," <i>Peter Pan</i> , Gazzarri dancer, and <i>Lido de Paris</i> , 1979 to 2011	box 02
<i>The Mystery of Edwin Droad</i> script, rehearsal notes, and schedule, 1998	box 02
<i>The Mystery of Edwin Droad</i> show poster and newspaper clippings, 1998	oversized box 11 folder 5
José Luis Viñas scripts, designs, and storyboards for unproduced shows, 1982 to 1995 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 02
"Petalos de amor y dolor" script written by Maria Pogue, Carlos V. Garcia poetry, draft of Pogue's professional experiences and biography, approximately 2001	box 02
Alan Haley article about dancers in Las Vegas, <i>Showgirls</i> script, and various biographical information about Pogue from web resources, 1982 to 2019	box 02
Dance related show programs and costume design research, 1996 to 2018	box 02
Christopher Hewett and Ray Bolger autographed headshots, approximately 1979	box 02
<i>Les Sizzle</i> scrapbook, 1979	oversized box 06
Scrapbooks about Maria Pogue's life and entertainment career, 1950 to 2009	oversized box 06 oversized box 07 oversized box 08 oversized box 09
Maria Pogue professional portraits and headshots: photographic album , approximately 1964 to 1989	oversized box 07

Personal papers and non-dance related professional papers

Names and Subjects:

- Personal papers
- Tourism -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Yoga
- Fashion shows

Maria Pogue photographic prints, negatives, and correspondence, 1962 to 2001	box 03
Maria Pogue notes and papers on family history, career, copy of floral artwork, and photographic prints; notes written by Pogue's father, Carlos Garcia; Justicialista Party election papers and certificate of election for Agueda Maria Garcia for office, 1942 to 2012 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 03 oversized folder 9 box 11
Biographical information and notes for Maria Pogue's memoir, Pogue's notes on two act opera <i>Life is Short</i> and <i>La Vida Breve</i> , 1974 to 2005 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 03
Personal correspondence, 2010 to 2014	box 03
Latin Chamber of Commerce member packets and information, 1999 to 2004	box 03
Maria Pogue's personal papers and correspondence on her art, poetry, memoir, yoga, and travel, 1970 to 2017 Physical Description: 10 Files	box 03
Bikram yoga teacher training materials, 2001 to 2008 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 04
General information and clippings about Las Vegas and Las Vegas official visitors guides, 1988 to 1998 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 04
Maria Pogue's notebook, Ra-Ma Tours information, Ellesse fashion show planning, 1980 to 1993	box 04
Ra-Ma Tours information and itineraries, 1997 to 1998	box 04
Beconta and Ellesse fashion show papers, photographic prints, and audiovisual materials, 1981 to 1986 Physical Description: 10 Files Physical Description: 4 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 1 VHS Tapes	box 05 box 12
<i>Palm Beach Social</i> pictorial issue featuring Ellesse fashion show, 1986	oversized folder 6 box 11
Golden Rainbow benefit gala poster with signatures and messages from Pogue's dance and choreography colleagues and friends, 2004	oversized folder 7 box 11
Las Vegas beltway proposal, 1997	oversized folder box 11 10
Newspaper clippings about various casinos in Las Vegas, Nevada; Cirque du Soleil "O" show program, 1997 to 2000	oversized box 10
<i>O Cruzeiro</i> weekly magazines with articles on the Lobato dancers, <i>Clara Revista</i> magazine, 1960, 1970	oversized box 10