

Collection Level Description: AK

Reference code

AK

Title

SADAA: Akādemī

Dates of creation

1979-2002

Level of description

Collection

Extent

1 box containing 5 folders.

Name of creator

Akādemī: South Asian Dance

Administrative/biographical history

Akādemī is a London based South Asian dance company, with a particular interest in dance education and community work. The Academy of Indian Dance, as it was then known, was founded in 1979 by Tara Rajkumar with the aim of moving Indian dance out of the home and into a more public space. Originally much of their activity centred on in-house evening classes and regional performances but as the company grew and gained funding the Academy of Indian Dance became a more extensive arts organisation with several departments supporting the work of performers out in the wider Arts community.

In 1997 the company was rechristened Akādemī: South Asian Dance and began to spend more time working on larger scale productions. Key amongst these was 'Coming of Age' a performance in celebration of Akādemī's 21st birthday, which took place at the Southbank in 2000. Alongside the performance, from the early 80's Akādemī also hosted conferences and symposia examining various aspects of dance, worked on national and community projects and diversified their dance portfolio. The company continues to operate today, currently based in Hampstead.

Immediate source of acquisition

The collection was deposited as part of the SADAA (formerly SALIDAA).

Scope and content

The collection contains materials on the performances, educational work, publications and history of Akādemī.

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Accruals

Collection is complete.

System of arrangement

The collection comprises of five number folders, three are arranged chronologically covering the periods 1979-89, 1990-1994 and 1995-2002. The remaining folders contain biographical materials, conference items and acquisitions in other media forms, DVDs, slides and CDROM.

Access conditions

Available to researchers, by appointment. Access to archive material is subject to preservation requirements and must also conform to the restrictions of the Data Protection Act and any other appropriate legislation.

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Language of material

English

Physical characteristics

The collection is mainly in good condition. It comprises chiefly of paper and card items, but also has several photographs of performers and a CD of images. Likewise, included are several DVDs of performances and a selection of slides, both of which will require special equipment to view them. The DVD's are of variable condition, with most having poor sound quality and some of inconsistent picture quality.

Finding aids

A finding aid is available for the manuscript material.

Existence of copies

Digitised copies of some of his material are available on VADS (Visual Arts Data Service)
<http://www.vads.ac.uk>

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Archivist's note

Described by Joanne McPhie

Rules or conventions

ISAD (G) 2nd ed.

Date(s) of description

May 2014

Indexing

Persons

Ahmed, Mukal
Beattie, Theresa
Bolar, Chitraleka
Chalapati, Venkata
Chapman, John
Chelapati
Cussen, Belinda
Das Gupta, Sarmistha
Dhananjayan, V.P
Ghosh Shome, Priyadarshini
Grisogono, Vivian
Gopal, Pushala
Hancock, Shirley
Jayachandran
Jeyasingh, Shobana
Johar, Navtej Singh
Khan, Akram
Krishnan, Unni
Marchionni, Paula
Mulla, Aspi
Naidoo, Jayashri
Nair, Parvati
Patel, Vandana
Pawar, Priya
Pinto, Shiromi
Rajkumar, Tara
Sangoi, Vipul
Subramanyam, Anusha
Thiagarajah, Indra
Zaidi, Ali
Zulkahari, Ann-Marie

Corporate bodies

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan
Commonwealth Institute, London
Holborn Arts Centre
Horniman Museum
New Olympus Theatre, Gloucester
Place, The
Purcell Room
Richmond Tertiary College
Royal Opera House, The
Royal Ballet, The
Royal Festival Hall
SADAA (formerly SALIDAA)
Stratford Circus
Theatro Technis

Subjects

Asians --Great Britain
Asians – England
Kathak (Dance)
Indian Dance
Rajkumar, Tara