

# Guide to Loie Fuller cabinet card photograph and dance program C0469

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circa mid-1890s; July 8, 1924



## Title Statement

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**Author:** Amanda Brent

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Fenwick Library, MS2FL  
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Business Number: 703-993-2220  
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speccoll@gmu.edu  
URL: <https://scrc.gmu.edu>



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## Profile Description

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## Descriptive Summary

**Unit ID**

C0469

**Unit ID**

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**Unit Date**

circa mid-1890s; July 8, 1924

**box**

1 (folder)

**Language**

French

**Abstract**

Cabinet card photograph of the dancer Loie Fuller, taken circa mid-1890s, and one-sided program from a dance performance by Fuller's dance troupe at the Union Interalliée club in Paris on July 8, 1924, written in French.

**Creator**

Fuller, Loie, 1862-1928

**Extent**

.01 Linear Feet 2 items

**Physical Location**

R 72, C 3, S 5

**Repository**

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

There are no access restrictions.

**Use Restrictions**

No known copyright. The Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries believes that this collection is not restricted by copyright or related rights, but a conclusive determination could not be made. (See <https://rightsstatements.org/page/NKC/1.0/?language=en>)

**Acquisition Information**

Purchased by Steve Gerber from Schubertiade Music in October 2009.

**Processing Information**

Processing completed by Amanda Brent in March 2021. EAD markup completed by Amanda Brent in March 2021. This item was formerly part of the Performing Arts Manuscript Materials collection, C0215

**Preferred Citation**

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## Biographical Information

Loie Fuller (sometimes spelled Loïe), born Marie Louise Fuller in 1862, was an American dancer and theatrical lighting innovator. Fuller's dance career began during toddlerhood with vaudeville performances, burlesque shows, and many other kinds of entertainment. As an adult Fuller was best known for her "Serpentine Dance," her popular interpretation of vaudevillian "skirt dances" of the 1890s. With the "Serpentine Dance" Fuller utilized silk fabric and colored lighting to create evocative billows around herself as she danced, creating mesmerizing shapes. In addition to her choreography, Fuller patented numerous theatrical lighting techniques in order to achieve the look she desired for her performances, and some of her innovations persist to this day. Fuller was one of the most popular dancers of the Fin de Siècle era and is often considered the personification of the Art Nouveau movement. She spent the majority of her career in Paris, France, first performing to great acclaim at the Folies-Bergère and eventually creating her own dance company. Fuller was also an out lesbian - something practically unheard of during the time - and her romantic partner of three decades Gab Sorère also served as her professional partner, inheriting Fuller's dance company when she passed away in 1928.

## Scope and Content

A cabinet card photograph of the dancer Loie Fuller, taken circa mid-1890s in Glasgow, Scotland. The photograph features Loie seated from the waist up, dressed finely for the time, smiling and staring straight into camera. The photograph was taken by Langfier, Louis, & Co. of 202 Hope St., Glasgow, Scotland. The studio information is on the bottom of the card. There are two inscriptions on the card. The first on the front of the card reads "LA=Loie=Fuller." The second, on the verso, reads "3/16 Loie Fuller / bailarina[.]" "Bailarina" means "dancer" in Spanish.

Also included in the collection is a one-sided program from a dance performance by Fuller's dance troupe at

the Union Interalliée club in Paris on July 8, 1924. The program, written in French, gives information on the performance, including musical pieces and who will be dancing to them. The performance is titled "Danses d'Ombres et de Lumières," which translates to "Dances of Shadows and Lights."

## Related Materials

The Special Collections Research Center also holds other materials related to modern dance and the performing arts.

The New York Public Library, Archives & Manuscripts Division holds the [Loie Fuller collection](#) and the [Loie Fuller papers](#).

## Keywords

Art nouveau

Dance

Modern dance

Performing arts

Fuller, Loie, 1862-1928

## Bibliography

Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia. "Loie Fuller." Encyclopedia Britannica, accessed March 1, 2021. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Loie-Fuller>.

Garellick, Rhonda K. "Loie Fuller and the Serpentine," November 5, 2019. The Public Domain Review. Accessed March 1, 2021. <https://publicdomainreview.org/essay/loie-fuller-and-the-serpentine>.

Jones, Josh. "Watch the Serpentine Dance, Created by the Pioneering Dancer Loie Fuller, Performed in an 1897 Film by the Lumière Brothers," November 12, 2019. Open Culture. Accessed March 1, 2021. <https://www.openculture.com/2019/11/watch-the-serpentine-dance-created-by-the-pioneering-dancer-loie-fuller-performed-in-an-1897-film-by-the-lumiere-brothers.html>.

## Arrangement

This is a single folder collection.