

REID, MARITA (?–1980S)

The precocious daughter of an English father and Spanish mother, Marita Reid appeared on a public stage at the age of seven. Throughout the 1920s, she toured with Spanish dramatic companies at the National and Belmont theaters in New York City and acted in a variety of genres, ranging from drama to the light operatic Zarzuela. She formed her own company, *Compañia Marita Reid*, and played the circuit of mutual aid societies. The Depression and World War II curtailed live performance but Reid continued to produce Spanish and English language theatrical works. Reid worked in Hollywood, on Broadway, and appeared on live television in the *Armstrong Circle Theatre*, the *U.S. Steel Hour*, and *Studio One*. She authored four unpublished plays, and was politically active in support of the Spanish Republic. Involved in several anti-fascist productions in New York's Latino community, these were often followed by fundraisers, rallies and speeches. In 1957 she was honored at a special performance of a play she had made famous, *Lo Que Hablan las Mujeres* (What Women Talk About).