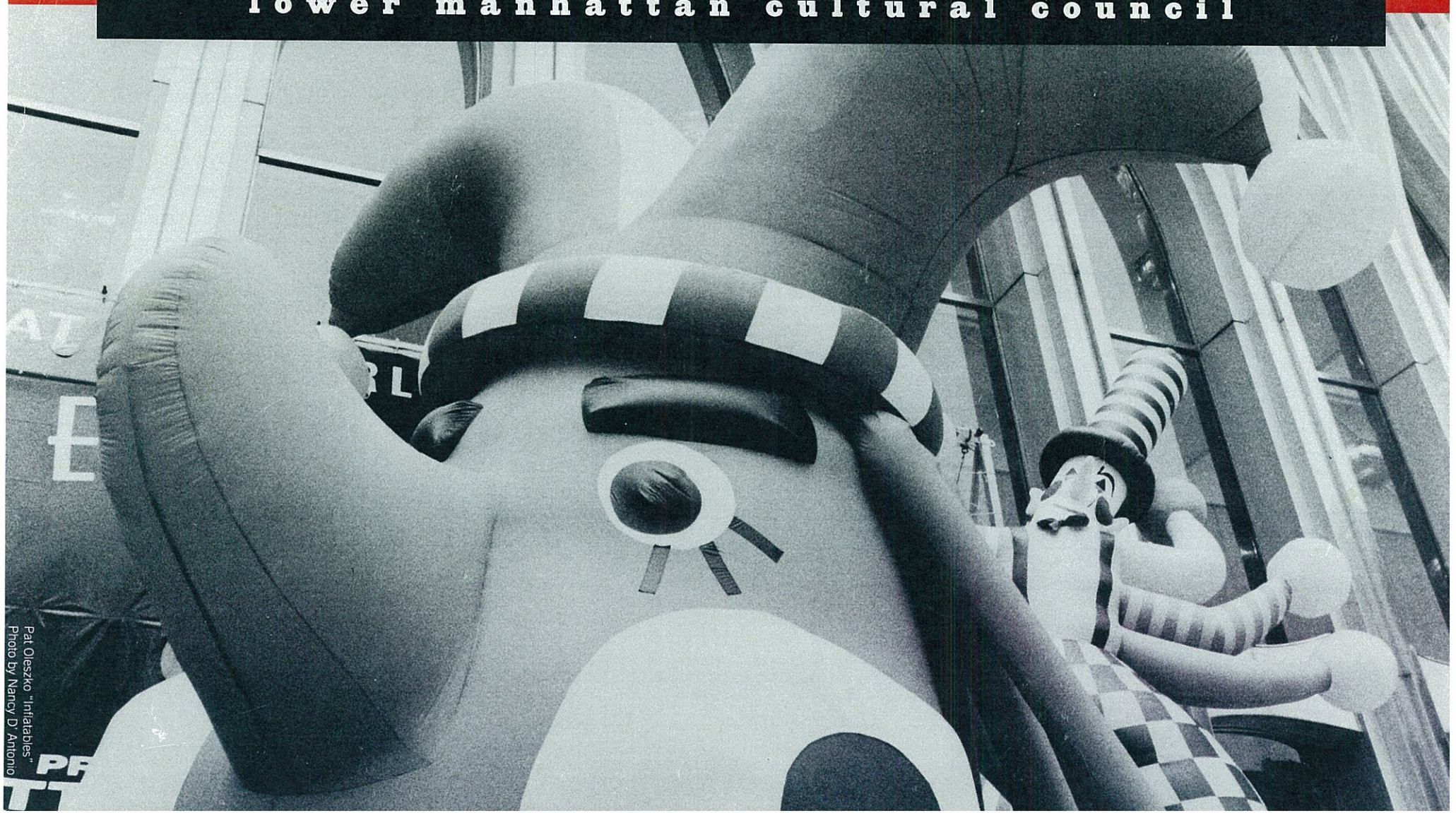
annual report 1993

lmcc

lower manhattan cultural council



Pat Oleszko "Inflatables"
Photo by Nancy D' Antonio



Clockwise from top left: David Shiner, Gene Pool, Pedestrian Project, Pat Oleszko Inflatables, UMO Ensemble
Photographs by Nancy D' Antonio

The Buskers Fare:
A Festival of Parades, Music and Buskers

"Straddling the line between respectable artists and notorious vagabonds, street performers remind us that we have a right to laugh. As fleeting as the audiences they attract, buskers have, for over 2,000 years, epitomized the free spirit of man."
Nancy D'Antonio

The First Annual Buskers Fare presented over 420 artists in 135 events over six days at sixteen sites throughout the streets, stages, plazas and parks of lower Manhattan. Mummers, new vaudevillians, circus stars, avant artists, jugglers, stiltwalkers, puppeteers, mimes, magicians and musicians transformed lower Manhattan into a living theater that attracted audiences estimated at 580,000 people. This program introduced a rich array of culturally and aesthetically distinct performers and ensembles who affirm and explore the age-old concept of street performance.

The Buskers Fare was conceived as a community - based effort to inspire collaboration between area businesses, corporations, presenters and artists. With the assistance of the Lower Manhattan Marketing Association, these communities joined together in creating an unprecedented event.

Opening with a celebration at City Hall on June 7, twelve groups paraded down to the World Trade Center for a plaza performance fiesta by Miguel Cossio and Las Mojigangas Mexican Puppet Troup, joined by 100 fifth graders from PS 1M.



Others paraded to Chase Manhattan Plaza for the New York debut of "El Dorado" by UMO Ensemble Buffoon Theater from Vashon Island, Washington. While Alice Farley stiltwalked on the Battery Park Esplanade, the Hurdy Gurdy Man entertained at Century 21 Department Store. Simultaneously, The Pedestrian Project vogued their shadow street theater on the steps of Federal Hall and the Holiday Inn in Chinatown. Children participated in puppet parade workshops at Battery Park while Ralph Lee and The Mettawee River Theater Company led the downtown Plaza Parade at the World Trade Center. Battery Park City presented Ben & Jerry's Traveling Show Bus while the famed Philadelphia Mummers performed at the South Street Seaport.

Highlights included "The Buskers Bash" at The World Trade Center, where twelve soloists and ensembles performed cameo treats with David Shiner, star of Broadway's "Fool Moon" as Master of Ceremonies, with musical accompaniment by the foam rubber live puppets of The Big Nazo Band. The "Bash" presented the debut American appearance by The South African Children's Dance Theatre of New Castle as well as the kings of doo-wop puppeteers The Crowations, and giant Busker inflatable sculptures by Pat Olezsko. An exhibition of photos by photographer Nancy D'Antonio in the World Trade Center enabled audiences to appreciate the broad social context and historical impact of busking and its ageless public.

The week closed with the Saturday evening Buskers Ball - a grand finale of performance and spectacle. Over 5,000 people came to the World Trade Center where three stages featured three hours of music and magic in a public celebration of the art of busking in the magnificence of lower Manhattan.

This event represents major advances in both programming impact and corporate support for LMCC. Traditional philanthropic support was enhanced by special events budgets from corporate supporters. For an organization of LMCC's size, this marks a new area of opportunity from which to further strengthen an economic foundation for the arts.













Buskers Fare '93 was produced by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council in association with the Lower Manhattan Marketing Association and supported by: Association for a Better New York • Battery Park City Authority • Best Western Seaport Inn • Century 21 Department Stores • The Chase Manhattan Bank N.A. •Chemical Bank • Chinatown Tourism Council • Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association • Circle Line • Downtown Express • Downtown Restaurant Alliance • Edward Moran's Bar & Grill • Federal Hall National Monument • Holiday Inn Downtown • The Hotel Millenium • Hudson River Club • Kinney Systems Inc. • Manhattan Seaport Suites • Materials for the Arts • The Metropolitan Transportation Authority • National Endowment for the Arts • New York City Department of Parks & Recreation • New York State Council on the Arts • New York Stock Exchange • Office of the Mayor, City of New York • Pace University • Seagrams • Shearson Lehman Brothers Inc. • South Street Seaport Museum • The Triplex Theater • Borough of Manhattan Community College • The Violet Trolley of New York University • The World Trade Center, Port Authority of NY & NJ • World Financial Center • Z100 New York



Buskers

Musicians & Ensembles

19 BUSKER'S FARE 93



Akwesi Asante • Avalon String Band • Balkan Trio • Laine Barton • Ben & Jerry's Traveling Show Bus • Jerome Benton • Big Nazo • Bond Street Theater • Cajun Cello • Phyllis Capello • Miguel A. Cassio & Las Mojigangas Mexican Puppet Troupe • Chinese Folk Dance Company • The Crowations Inc. • Nancy D'Antonio • K. Jonah Emsig • Alice Farley • Garland Farwell & Company • Mark Feinson • Preston Foerder • Loup Garou • George Gee Orchestra • Michael Gunst • Hegeman String Band • Rachel Hennelly • Steven M. Hollow • Hot Foot • I Giullari Di Piazza • Jambalaya Jive • Danny Kean • The Raggin' Piano Boogie • Michael Lee • Ralph Lee & The Mettawee River Theater Company • Lisa B. Lewis • Living Art International • The Steve Love Rollerblade Theater Trio • Cindy Marvell • Michael McGuigan • Jeff Moche • Harold Olejarz • Pat Oleszko • Vladimir Olshansky • Pedestrian Project • Pink Inc. • Polish American String Band • Gene Pool • Bradford Reed • Maria Reide • Brian Richardson • Ben Robinson • Peter Samelson & Dameon • South African Childrens' Dance Theater of New Castle • Student Troupe of the Big Apple Circus • Students of PS 1 M • Rock Steady Crew • Karl Saliter • Shelly Mars Schreibman • Stanley Allan Sherman • David Shiner • Nancy Smithner • Ruth Tamir • Texas Freedom Tourists • Walter Thompson Marching Orchestra • The Trembles • Umo Ensemble • Jed Weissberg Puppets • Felicia Young •

Participating Sites: The World Trade Center Plaza • The South Street Seaport • The World Financial Center • Chase Manhattan Plaza • Federal Hall • Battery Park City • The Hotel Millenium • Century 21 Department Store • The Holiday Inn Downtown • Chinatown • The Triplex Theater • Chase Manhattan Plaza • The Hudson River Club • City Hall • Pace University • Battery Park • City Hall Park • Chemical Bank branches throughout the neighborhood.

Performers clockwise from lower left: Cindy Marvell, Big Nazo, South African Childrens' Theaters, Peter Samelson.

Photographs by Nancy D'Antonio.