



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Theater for the New City ephemera**

1971-1999

8-MWEZ + 30,505

### Summary

**Creator:** Theater for the New City (New York, N.Y.)

**Title:** Theater for the New City ephemera

**Date:** 1971-1999

**Size:** .25 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** papers:

**Abstract:** The Theater for the New City is an Off-Off Broadway troupe best known for experimental theater projects and outdoor spectacles. Founded in 1970 by Crystal Field, George Bartenieff, Theo Barnes and Lawrence Kornfeld, the Theater for the New City was based in Manhattan's West Village in its early years. Rising real estate costs forced a move to the East Village in the late 1970s, by which time the group was led by co-artistic directors Field and Bartenieff. In addition to hosting street happenings and an annual Village Halloween Costume Ball, the troupe has presented the work of such playwrights as Sam Shepard, Charles Ludlam, Maria Irene Fornes, and Richard Foreman. The Theater for the New City ephemera consists of clippings, programs, fliers, photographs and related documents pertaining to the activities of the Theater for the New City troupe. The clippings include reviews of TNC shows as well as a number of feature stories concerning the group's real estate difficulties.

**Access:** Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:  
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### **Scope and Content Note**

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### **Key Terms**

#### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Clippings  
Fliers (printed matter)  
Photographs  
Programs

#### **Subjects**

Experimental theater -- New York (State) -- New York  
Theater -- New York (State) -- New York

#### **Names**

Bartenieff, George  
Field, Crystal, 1942-  
Theater for the New City (New York, N.Y.)