



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**En Garde Arts ephemera**

1986-1999

8-MWEZ 30500

## Summary

**Creator:** En Garde Arts, Inc. (New York, N.Y.)

**Title:** En Garde Arts ephemera

**Date:** 1986-1999

**Size:** .5 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** papers:

**Abstract:** En Garde Arts, Inc., was a New York-based theater company that specialized in "site specific" productions, staging both classics and new works in specially designated, nontraditional architectural or outdoor spaces. Founded in 1985 by former performance artist Anne Hamburger, En Garde Arts distinguished itself by setting plays in unusual public spaces such as warehouses, factories, street corners, piers, and parks. The 1989 production *AT THE CHELSEA* consisted of three one-act plays set at the Chelsea Hotel on West 23rd Street, each staged in a different room at the hotel itself. In 1990 the troupe presented Mac Wellman's *CROWBAR* in the dilapidated Victory Theatre on 42nd Street, the first play produced there in over fifty years. In 1993 En Garde Arts staged Charles L. Mee's adaptation of Euripides' *ORESTES* at an abandoned railroad switching station at 59th Street and 12th Avenue. In 1995 the company staged Jonathan Larson's *J.P. MORGAN SAVES THE NATION* at the intersection of Wall Broad streets in the heart of Lower Manhattan's financial district. En Garde Arts disbanded at the conclusion of the 1998-1999 season. The En Garde Arts ephemera consists of clippings, photocopies, reviews, programs, fliers, production photographs, press releases, financial papers, and other documents pertaining to En Garde Arts.

**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:  
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

**Physical Location:** 8-MWEZ 30500

**Preferred citation:** En Garde Arts ephemera, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public

Library

### **Creator History**

En Garde Arts, Inc., was a New York-based theater company that specialized in "site specific" productions, staging both classics and new works in specially designated, nontraditional architectural or outdoor spaces. Founded in 1985 by former performance artist Anne Hamburger, En Garde Arts distinguished itself by setting plays in unusual public spaces such as warehouses, factories, street corners, piers, and parks. The 1989 production AT THE CHELSEA consisted of three one-act plays set at the Chelsea Hotel on West 23rd Street, each staged in a different room at the hotel itself. In 1990 the troupe presented Mac Wellman's CROWBAR in the dilapidated Victory Theatre on 42nd Street, the first play produced there in over fifty years. In 1993 En Garde Arts staged Charles L. Mee's adaptation of Euripides' ORESTES at an abandoned railroad switching station at 59th Street and 12th Avenue. In 1995 the company staged Jonathan Larson's J.P. MORGAN SAVES THE NATION at the intersection of Wall & Broad streets in the heart of Lower Manhattan's financial district. En Garde Arts disbanded at the conclusion of the 1998-1999 season.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The En Garde Arts ephemera consists of clippings, photocopies, reviews, programs, fliers, production photographs, press releases, financial papers, and other documents pertaining to En Garde Arts.

### **Key Terms**

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

Clippings  
Photographs  
Programs

#### **Subjects**

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

#### **Names**

Hamburger, Anne, producer  
En Garde Arts, Inc. (New York, N.Y.)