



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Archives of American Art*

## **Celebrating 175: Lucy Lippard, Correspondence, Ukeles, Mierle Laderman, 1977-1988**

Extracted on Feb-06-2023 04:47:09

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[[note]] to go out with paychecks on 9-23 [[/note]]

-OFFICIAL BUSINESS-  
THE FIRST NEW YORK  
ART PARADE  
September 15, 1983

GRAND FINALE: "SANITATION CELEBRATIONS"(c)

Dear Sanitation Worker, Dear Friend, from Mierle Laderman Ukeles  
Artist in Residence

I take great pleasure in inviting you to march with me in the Grand  
Finale of the First NYC Art Parade in History. I send this invitation to you  
and to the members of your family who benefit most directly from your  
very difficult labor.

The parade takes place on Tuesday, September 27, 1983, from 7 to 9  
p.m., on Madison Avenue in Manhattan, from 104th Street south to 72nd  
Street, and concludes with a celebration for participants only in Central  
Park. I know 7 to 9 at night is a difficult time for you--but that's the only  
time THE ART PARADE could get, near many of NYC's greatest  
museums. If you can manage to get there, it is guaranteed to KNOCK  
YOUR EYES OUT! Your great-grandchildren will ask you if you were  
there! This is IT: We'll rehearse at 106th and Madison Avenue between  
Mad and 5th at 7:15p.m.  
GRAND FINALE IN 4 Parts:

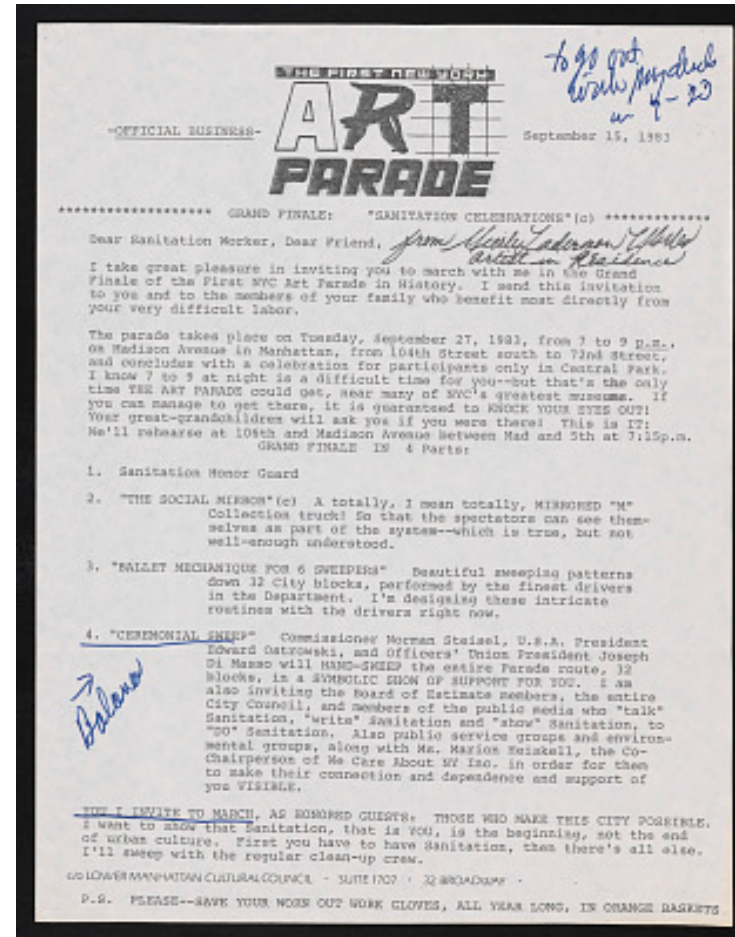
1. Sanitation Honor Guard

2. "THE SOCIAL MIRROR"(c) A totally, I mean totally, MIRRORED "M"  
Collection truck! So that the spectators can see themselves as part of  
the system--which is true, but not well-enough understood.

3. "BALLET MECHANIQUE FOR 6 SWEEPERS" Beautiful sweeping  
patterns down 32 City blocks, performed by the finest drivers in the  
Department. I'm designing these intricate routines with the drivers right  
now.

[[note]] Bolono [[/note]] 4. "CEREMONIAL SWEEP" Commissioner  
Norman Steisel, U.S.A. President Edward Ostrowski, and Officers'  
Union President Joseph Di Masso will HAND-SWEEP the entire Parade  
route, 32 blocks, in a SYMBOLIC SHOW OF SUPPORT FOR YOU. I  
am also inviting the Board of Estimate members, the entire City Council,  
and members of the public media who "talk" Sanitation, "write"  
Sanitation and "show" Sanitation, to "DO" Sanitation. Also public service  
groups and environmental groups, along with Ms. Marion Heiskell, the  
Co-Chairperson of We Care About NYC Inc. in order for them to make  
their connection and dependence and support of you VISIBLE.

YOU I INVITE TO MARCH, AS HONORED GUESTS: THOSE WHO  
MAKE THIS CITY POSSIBLE. I want to show that Sanitation, that is  
YOU, is the beginning, not the end of urban culture. First you have to  
have Sanitation, then there's all else. I'll sweep with the regular clean-up  
crew.



c/o LOWER MANHATTAN CULTURAL COUNCIL SUITE 1707 32  
BROADWAY

P.S. PLEASE--SAVE YOUR WORN OUT WORK GLOVES, ALL YEAR  
LONG, IN ORANGE BASKETS

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