

The Chelsea

color. 60 min. Doris Chase Prods., dist. by The Kitchen, 512 W. 19th St., New York, NY 10011; 212-255-5793. 1993.

\$275. Public performance. ART-GENERAL

New York's Chelsea Hotel has been a haven for artists, writers, and performers since 1883. Luminaries from Sarah Bernhardt, O. Henry, and Mark Twain to Janis Joplin, Eugene O'Neill, Tennessee Williams, Jackson Pollock, Bette Davis, and Jane Fonda have lived there. Producer/director Doris Chase, herself a resident for 20 years, weaves historical facts, archival footage, and interviews with current and past residents into a tapestry reflecting the avant-garde and quirky character of this historic residence hotel. The hotel's general managers, Stanley and David Bard, tell why they feel it is so important that the Chelsea continue to live up to its artistic traditions. Shot on video in a cinema vérité style, this is a welcome addition to collections on the arts and popular culture.—*Tom Budlong, Atlanta-Fulton P.L.*