

# THE PHOENIX

*They Want a Say:*

## DUMBO Artists Gear Up For Potential Battle Over Waterfront Real Estate

BY HEIDI MISSLBECK

Real estate developers are being drawn to DUMBO (Down Under the Manhattan Bridge) like magnets, attracted by potential profits from conversion of industrial warehouses into luxury co-op waterfront apartments which suddenly have put this long-ignored area on the map.

But to the more than 300 artists and self-employed professionals who have already carved their lofts out of DUMBO's warehouses, the plans of developers are less than welcome. Through a year-old organization, the Fulton Ferry Local Development Corp. (FFLDS), DUMBO's residents have been trying to shape a future according to their own plans.

DUMBO is the recently coined name for the strip that stretches along Brooklyn's waterfront, between Atlantic Ave. and the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The area is zoned

(Continued page 3)



Artist Debby Masters in front of her DUMBO loft (Feldman Photo)