

Summergarden

The Museum of Modern Art

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CHARLIE MORROW, CHANT COMPOSER, IN SUMMERGARDEN

Composer CHARLIE MORROW will present audience participation chants and a recitation at 8 PM, Friday and Saturday, September 19 and 20 in The Museum of Modern Art's SUMMERGARDEN. Free admission is through the Sculpture Garden gate at 8 West 54 Street.

BREATH CHANT, in which the audience is encouraged to participate, opens a program featuring HO-HO PLUS... (a free chanting ritual for leader and group) which will be performed by pre-kindergarten children from the Grant Day-Care Center at 123rd Street and Amsterdam Avenue in New York. These children have been "exploring basic sound-making" with Morrow this summer at the Center. HO-HO PLUS... uses a group of planned sounds: ho-ho-ho-ho; long ooo's; plus animal sounds. The choice of which sounds and how they are done is controlled by the leader, and each child has a turn as leader.

Morrow will also perform a section of a large, highly structured work titled THE NUMBER SIX, of which Tom Johnson said in The Village Voice, "No one has ever reduced music to pure logic so drastically." THE NUMBER SIX consists of logical progressions of numbers recited in varying tones, each number from one to six heard from a different speaker location.

The program will include CONCERTO FOR VIOLIN on Jewish cantillation featuring violinist YUVAL WALDMAN, chanter CHARLIE MORROW, percussionist BEN HARMS, and ethnic-flutist GEORGE MARGE. The audience is encouraged to join in the singing at the end.

The program concludes with HO-HO WITH MY FATHER'S SHIRT, a chant for leader and group (audience), in which Morrow puts on his father's shirt and, with the help of the group, "brings a number of chanting voices out of himself".

Future events in the planning by Morrow include two projects involving ways of perceiving space through experimentation with echoes. One involves multiple brass bands set among the mountain slopes and peaks around Boulder, Colorado; the other

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involves animal and bird calls in upstate New York caverns and crags.

A ten-year-long collaboration with poet Jerome Rothenberg has lead to Morrow's interest in the psychic and physical meanings of sound, and to working with breathing, counting, the linguistics of non-human species, and the oral poetry and music of tribal peoples. His work, often participatory pieces involving chanting, counting, words and pre-verbal sounds, is performed at New Wilderness Events, a monthly series at New York's Washington Square Church, and at Phillip Corner's "Sounds out of Silent Spaces" monthly series. Other performances include Arthur Weisberg's Theater of Sound at C. W. Post College and at SUNY, Stony Brook; AN EVENING WITH THE TWO CHARLIES: IVES AND MORROW at Alice Tully Hall in 1974; New Wilderness Cross-Species Event for Fish on Little Neck Bay in 1974; New Wilderness in Milwaukee, Concert for the First Ethno-Poetics Conference in April, 1975; and The Western Wind at Dartmouth College in August, 1975. Morrow, who is twice a recipient of CAPS grants, has served as Music Consultant to The Great Lakes Colleges Arts program in New York since 1973. His music will be released on New Wilderness Records in the forthcoming months.

September 26 and 27 -- JOHN WATTS, Founding Director of Composers Theater, and Director of The New School's Electronic Music Program, presents his works for piano, ARP Synthesizer and tape.

A grant from Mobil Oil Corporation enables The Museum of Modern Art to open its Sculpture Garden as SUMMERGARDEN, a free public park, from 6 PM to 10 PM every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through September 28. Short informal concerts are presented every Friday and Saturday at 8 PM. Free admission is through the Sculpture Garden gate at 8 West 54 Street.

Additional information available from Earl Hatleberg, Project Director, Summergarden and Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019. Phone: (212) 956-7298; 956-7501; 7504
