



Summergarten

LINDA MUSSMANN'S TIME AND SPACE LIMITED

SUMMERGARDEN, The Museum of Modern Art's series of free events in the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden, continues on Friday, August 23 at 8 p.m. with a performance by Linda Mussmann's Time and Space Limited. The company will present Harbors Wait, a performance piece created especially for SUMMERGARDEN involving music, dance, film, text, and other visual elements. SUMMERGARDEN is made possible by a grant from Mobil, sponsor of the series for nine seasons in the seventies.

During Harbors Wait the Sculpture Garden will be transformed to suggest the image of a giant sailing ship. A triangular wooden platform will be placed on the marble floor, white ribbons will be crisscrossed around the Garden Hall, and a triangle of parachute material will be draped from the sixth floor of the Museum. The performers, wearing exaggerated white sailor suits, will carry objects to suggest maritime flags and signs, accompanied by horns, reeds, and percussion. Megaphones will be used for text, and both the musical and textual elements will be based on ship imagery. Mussmann, who has used nautical imagery frequently in her work, stated, "I see the Garden as being divided into many islands: There is an island for the trees, and each sculpture has its own space surrounding it."

Mussmann's original and highly personal work has been deeply influenced by her childhood experiences on a farm in Indiana. She compares her work to

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**Friday and Saturday evenings in the Sculpture Garden of
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life on a farm, which is determined by natural conditions, such as the weather, the seasons, and the landscape. Since all of her pieces evolve in response to the environments in which they are installed, each performance is unique. As she has said, "My pieces are not active, linear, emotional, theatrical, or interpretive. I search for the ordinary, for material that is almost too corny--mid-western pun intended." Mussmann uses her spontaneous intuition to transform simple, ordinary influences into intriguing works of sound, movement, text, and visual elements.

Since she graduated from Purdue University in 1969, Mussmann has worked in New York as a theater director. She founded Time and Space Limited in 1973 and developed performance techniques of speech, gesture, design, lighting, and writing that challenge traditional theater. She has written ten performance pieces, and has directed over thirty productions at TSL's loftspace, as well as throughout the United States, Europe, and Canada.

Claudia Bruce has been collaborating with Mussmann since 1977. Her performance style is influenced by eastern forms such as Noh, Kabuki, and Aikido, and by a complex vocal technique that encompasses the extremes of speech and singing.

Semih Firincioglu has been composing for TSL since 1981. He plays keyboards, flute, and several folkloric instruments from his native country, Turkey. He holds a PhD. in literature from Yale University, where he has also completed post-doctoral work at the School of Drama. For the SUMMERGARDEN performance, Firincioglu will be joined by Phillip Johnston on soprano saxophone, Perry Robinson on clarinet, and other musicians to be announced.

The music of Semih Firincioglu will be featured on a segment of the noon radio program "Around New York," hosted by Brooke Wentz on WNYC (FM 94), on Thursday, August 22.

Other members of the performance group will be Deborah Auer-Brown, Ingrid Reffert, Philip Shepherd, Brigitte Bley-Swinston, Olin Calk, Linda Graetz, Amy Guggenheim, David Stern, Annie Miquet, and Margot Leverett.

Admission to SUMMERGARDEN is free on a first-come, first-served basis. On Friday and Saturday evenings the Garden is open from 6 to 10 p.m., and performances take place on Friday evenings only, beginning at 8 p.m. Seating is limited, so the public is advised to bring cushions. In the event of rain, performances are postponed until the following evening (Saturday) at 8 p.m. Entrance to SUMMERGARDEN is through the Garden Gate at 14 West 54 Street, between Fifth Avenue and the Avenue of the Americas. Refreshments are available at the Garden Café. For visitor information call 212/708-9880.

SUMMERGARDEN project director is Andrew B. Caploe; associate project director is Peter S. Pretsfelder.

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Final event of SUMMERGARDEN:

August 30 The Art Ensemble of Chicago: A performance in celebration of the group's twenty years together (the sole amplified event of the series) with Lester Bowie, Malachi Favors, Joseph Jarman, Roscoe Mitchell, and Famoudou Don Moye.

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For press information contact the SUMMERGARDEN office at 212/708-9850, or the Department of Public Information at 212/708-9750.