

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
July 1992

SUMMERGARDEN 1992 CONCERT SERIES AT MOMA
Weekends of August 7 & 8, August 28 & 29 Offer
INSTRUMENTAL WORKS BY JOHN CAGE
The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden
Concerts, 7:30 p.m.

SUMMERGARDEN 1992, The Museum of Modern Art's free series of concerts celebrating the eightieth birthday of composer John Cage, continues with recent instrumental works.

On August 7 and 8 the program opens with *TWO*⁵ (October 1991), a 40-minute piece performed by Eric Ewazen, piano, and Benjamin Herrington, trombone. It is followed by *FOUR* (1989), a 30-minute work for string quartet. The musicians are Nick Eanet and Eric Grossman, violin, Richard Brice, viola, and Wendy Sutter, cello.

Both pieces on the final program of the series (August 28 and 29) involve ten performers. The concert opens with a performance of *TEN* (October 1991), for woodwind and string quartets, piano, and percussion. Cage has written: "Single tones or any number of them in flexible time brackets. Phrasing, use of silence, articulation is free. But only play the tones that are written once. Search with them for melisma, florid song. When durations or phrases are long, keep the amplitude low. Short sounds can be of any amplitude."

The second work on the program carries the dedication, "In celebration of the work of Jean Arp on the occasion of the centenary of his birth." The title "*BUT WHAT ABOUT THE NOISE OF CRUMPLING PAPER WHICH HE USED TO DO IN*

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ORDER TO PAINT THE SERIES OF 'PAPIERS FROISSES' OR TEARING UP PAPER TO MAKE 'PAPIERS DECHIRES?' ARP WAS STIMULATED BY WATER (SEA, LAKE, AND FLOWING, WATERS LIKE RIVERS), FORESTS" (October 1991) is a response by Greta Ströh to a letter John Cage had written to her. In this piece, each player is required to use at least two "only slightly resonant instruments of different materials (wood, metal, and glass, for example, not metal, metal and wood) played in unison. Very slow, but without conductor, each player following his own beat." The concert ends with a repetition of *TEN*.

On August 14 and 15, and August 21 and 22, the concerts are once again devoted to performances of *EUROPERA 5* (1991), which premiered in New York on July 31 at the Museum.

SUMMERGARDEN 1992 is made possible by generous grants from the Everett B. Birch Foundation and Daniel Shapiro. The concerts are performed by young artists and recent graduates of the Juilliard School, as well as guest artists. The concerts start at 7:30 p.m., and the Sculpture Garden is open from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Refreshing beverages are available at the Summer Café. Entrance to **SUMMERGARDEN** is at 14 West 54 Street.

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