

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 245-3200 Cable: Modernart

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FOR RELEASE:

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Jazz in the Garden will present a Roland Kirk Jamhappening at The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, tonight (Thursday, August 24) at 8:30. Kirk, on a variety of saxophones, flutes, whistles and sirens, some played simultaneously, will be joined by Charlie Shavers, trumpet; Jaki Byard, piano, vibes, and other instruments; Ben Tucker, Bass; and Oliver Jackson, drums. Unlike many of their contemporaries, the group enjoys the free exchange and surprise element of the jam session, and the concert is expected to produce sounds ranging from ragtime to the avant-garde.

Jazz in the Garden, ten Thursday evening promenade concerts, is sponsored jointly by the Museum and Down Beat magazine. The series will conclude August 31 with Freddie Hubbard and the Jazz Communicators. The Hubbard concert, originally scheduled for June 22, was rained out.

The entire Museum is open Thursday evenings during the summer until 10. The regular Museum admission, \$1.25, admits visitors to galleries and to 8 p.m. film showings in the Auditorium; there is no charge for Museum members. Admission to jazz concerts is an additional 50 cents for all.

As in previous Jazz in the Garden programs, tickets for each concert will be on sale in the Museum lobby from Saturday until the time of the performance. A few chairs are available on the garden terraces, but most of the audience stands or sits on the ground. Cushions may be rented for 25 cents. Beer and sandwiches are available. In case of rain, the concert will be canceled; tickets will be honored at the concert following. Other Museum activities continue as announced.

For Jazz in the Garden, Ira Gitler, New York Editor of Down Beat, is Chairman of a Program Committee consisting of Don Schlitten, Charles Graham, and Herbert Bronstein, Series Director.

Roland Kirk, blind since infancy, is a multi-instrumentalist. His span includes the stritch and manzello, unusual saxophones, and the tenor sax and flute, sometimes electrified. His musical interest encompasses the jazz spectrum. Although Kirk has

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led his own group since the 1950s, he appeared with Charlie Mingus in the early 1960s. Charlie Shavers, recognized as one of the great trumpeters in jazz, has starred with the John Kirby Sextet and the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, with Dorsey and later with the touring company. He is the composer of "Undecided."

Jaki Byard, while concentrating on piano, also plays various saxophones, vibes and bass. He also played with Mingus, and has appeared as solo pianist and as leader of his own quartet. Ben Tucker, composer of "Comin' Home, Baby," has been featured with Herbie Mann and Billy Taylor. Drummer Oliver Jackson has appeared in New York with several groups including those of Buck Clayton, Lionel Hampton, and Teddy Burrell. For the past two years he has worked with Earl "Fatha" Hines.

Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200.