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SUMMERGARDEN FEATURES THE DANCES OF LONNY JOSEPH GORDON

Lonny Joseph Gordon will dance in the Sculpture Garden of The Museum of Modern Art on two consecutive weekends, August 18/19 and August 25/26, at 8:00 p.m., as part of the Museum's free Summergarden entertainment, made possible by a grant from Mobil Foundation. Mr. Gordon is noted as the first non-Japanese ever invited to study in the Grand Kabuki Theater under the personal direction of Kanzaburo Nakamura XVII.

The dances of Lonny Joseph Gordon blend his South Texas roots with his years of travel and study in the Orient. Mr. Gordon's concern is with "the individual's personal creative expression and the ecology of the human spirit through movement." His choreographic style has been noted for its "combination of physical strength and delicacy, its attention to hands and head, and its technical control and sensual nuances."

Mr. Gordon holds an MFA from the University of Wisconsin in painting and choreography. He received two successive Fulbright - Hays grants to study dance, art, and theater in Japan, and he has been a guest artist on the faculties of the University of Wisconsin, the University of Stockholm, India's National School of Drama, the University of Malaysia Experimental Theater, Taiwan's National College of Chinese Culture, Jacob's Pillow, Springfield College, and Smith College. He has performed and lectured in many other countries throughout the world.

Mr. Gordon's Museum programs, which will include the premieres of the dances "Back Door" and "Rushes," are produced by Gary Dobosen Grant. Members of his New York based company are: Connie Allentuck, Susan Bogush, Tom Claypool, Pamela Craig, John Howe, Jimmy Hopson, Jeremy Lennon, Kathy Kreda, Sue Lundberg, Sherry Morris, Gene Olson, Brad Elslager, Mara Purl, Jackie Sawyer, Philipp Sherrod, Louis Venza, and Jane Witucki.

Summergarden continues through October 1 with the conversion of the Museum's Sculpture Garden into a free public park at 8 West 54 Street every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 6 to 11 p.m.

Additional information available from Lillian Gerard, Special Projects Coordinator, and Mark Segal, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York 10019. Tel: (212) 956-7296.