

# Summergarden The Museum of Modern Art

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NO. 43  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 1974

## SUMMERGARDEN OPENS FOURTH SEASON MAY 31 AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

SUMMERGARDEN begins its fourth season on May 31 with the opening of The Museum of Modern Art's world-famous Sculpture Garden as a free public park, weekend evenings for four months, through September 29. Entrance is through the Garden gate at 8 West 54 Street every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 6 pm to 11 pm. Made possible by a grant from Mobil Oil Corporation, SUMMERGARDEN presents informal entertainment Fridays and Saturdays selected by Ed Bland, Program Director.

Performances scheduled for June begin with aerial dance by THE MULTI-GRAVITATIONAL GROUP May 31 and June 1. SMALL PLANET plays folk music June 7-8; BILL MATTHEWS plays classical guitar June 14-15; MANJU PRASAD, Hindu dancer, appears June 21-22; and June 28-29 SUMMERGARDEN presents a CHAMBER ENSEMBLE: \*Beverly Radin, flute; \*Madeline Shapiro, cello; and Roy Lewis, violin. (\*Appears courtesy AMBROSIAN CHAMBER ENSEMBLE.) July, August and September schedules are to be announced.

Last year more than 50,000 visitors enjoyed SUMMERGARDEN, set in one of the most famous outdoor sculpture courts in the world. Critically acclaimed and awarded, the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden presents a continuous major exhibition of more than 30 large-scale works, spanning the history of modern art and set amid splashing fountains and reflecting pools, beds of ivy and stands of poplars and weeping beeches.

Ed Bland, Program Director for SUMMERGARDEN since its first season in 1971, also directed the Museum's Jazz in the Garden series from 1968 through 1971 and, as Music Consultant to The Brooklyn Academy of Music, produced its Blues and Jazz series. In addition to having scored more than 20 films,

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he has conducted his own compositions and arrangements, or been producer for many of the most respected names in jazz, blues and rock, among whom are Al Hirt, Dizzy Gillespie, The Chambers Brothers, Richie Havens, and Country Joe and the Fish. He has written, directed, produced, or been consultant for numerous feature films and network television features, including his own acclaimed production, THE CRY OF JAZZ, and 1973 Cannes Film Festival Critic's Week choice, GANJA AND HESS. Two recordings, his STRING QUARTET, NUMBER TWO and two suites of incidental film music, are scheduled for release later this year. Mr. Bland is a producer with Vanguard Records.

Named in honor of one of the three founders of The Museum of Modern Art, the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden was designed by Philip C. Johnson. When his enlarged and redesigned Garden opened in 1964, Ada Louise Huxtable, Pulitzer Prize winning architecture critic, said it was successful not only as architecture but as cityscape. "The enlarged Garden, with a series of stepped levels, pools, fountains, and some pretty large-scale sculpture is fine esthetically and equally fine as an example of the way expensive mid-town land can be 'wasted' by leaving it open for the pleasure of people."

Two years later, the Sculpture Garden received the BARD FIRST HONOR AWARD from the City Club of New York as "a distinguished oasis...offering a variety of spaces for the enjoyment of sculpture and just plain walking."

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