

## Summergarden

For Immediate Release June 1988

# COMPOSER JOHN CAGE FOCUS OF CONCERT SERIES AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Friday and Saturday evenings, July and August, 6:00-10:00 p.m.
The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden
Concerts, 7:30 p.m.

SUMMERGARDEN returns to The Museum of Modern Art every Friday and Saturday evening from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. during July and August. Made possible by Mobil Corporation, this year's SUMMERGARDEN features a free series of concerts devoted to American composer John Cage on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday. Works by Cage and other twentieth-century composers are performed by young artists from The Juilliard School, under the artistic direction of the violinist and conductor Paul Zukofsky.

John Cage's work is presented along with that of composers who have influenced him and whom he has influenced. The collective musical thoughts of these artists have had an immense effect on twentieth-century music. On July 1 and 2, the opening concerts present works by Cage, Giacinto Scelsi, Arnold Schoenberg, and Anton Webern. Continuing through August 27, the series also includes works by Henry Cowell, Morton Feldman, Zoltán Jeney, Erik Satie, and Christian Wolff, among others (schedule attached). The concerts, which begin at 7:30 p.m. each evening, include a complete performance of Cage's <u>Sonatas and Interludes</u>, an evening of percussion music, and a complete performance of Satie's <u>Relâche</u>, including a showing of the film <u>Cinema/Entr'acte</u> by René Clair.

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As composer, philosopher, and writer, Cage's impact on world music has been greater than that of any other American composer of this century. In his twenties, he invented the "prepared piano," transforming an ordinary piano into a kind of percussion orchestra. In his thirties, he introduced the element of chance into his compositions, creating "aleatoric," or chance, music.

Cage experimented with electronic sounds ten years before the advent of magnetic tape; and, when tape became readily available, he was one of the first to sense its possibilities. He moved into new fields of electronic sound and audio-visual activities, creating complex mixed-media events that combined electronic and acoustic music, pantomime, dance, slides, and colored light.

Since the 1970s, Cage has returned to a more traditional and precise notation system, while continuing to use chance procedures to create sound patterns divorced from self-expression. He has also returned to writing primarily for conventional instruments.

Considered one of the leading performers of American music in the United States, Mr. Zukofsky has been the musical director of Juilliard's Twentieth-Century Players since joining The Juilliard School faculty in 1984. A graduate of The Juilliard School, he made his Carnegie Hall debut as violinist in 1956 and has appeared in recitals and performances with major orchestras in the United States, Europe, Japan, and South America. He has recorded music ranging from J.S. Bach to Philip Glass. Last year he joined Dennis Russell Davies and the American Composers Orchestra as soloist in the world premiere of Glass's Violin Concerto, which was dedicated to Zukofsky and Davies. This July he conducts the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London in the first recording of Artur Schnabel's Symphony No. 2.

Through grants from Mobil Corporation since 1971, SUMMERGARDEN has offered New Yorkers and visitors an escape from the city in the heart of Manhattan. An oasis of trees, fountains, and reflecting pools, the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden is the setting for modern masterpieces by Picasso, Matisse, Moore, Rodin, David Smith, and others--the perfect ambiance for a hot summer evening.

A special feature of SUMMERGARDEN 1988 is the Summer Café, offering light refreshments and cool beverages. Entrance to SUMMERGARDEN is at 14 West 54 Street.

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For further information, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.



1988 PROGRAM

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This year The Museum of Modern Art's SUMMERGARDEN honors American composer John Cage on the occasion of his seventy-fifth birthday. Made possible by a grant from Mobil Corporation, SUMMERGARDEN is a collaboration between the Museum and The Juilliard School. Artistic director is Paul Zukofsky. The schedule is as follows:

#### July 1 and 2

ARNOLD SCHOENBERG, String Trio, Op. 45 (1946); GIACINTO SCELSI, Elegia Per Ty (1966); ANTON WEBERN, String Quartet, Op. 28 (1938); JOHN CAGE, Hymnkus (1986). Performed by:

Joshua Gordon, cello
Don Krishnaswami, viola
Cornelia Schwartz, violin
Nobu Wakabayashi, violin
Mia Wu, violin
Paul Zukofsky, violin

#### July 8 and 9

ERIK SATIE, <u>Three Sarabandes</u> (1887) and <u>Three Nocturnes</u> (1919); JOHN CAGE, <u>Water Music</u> (1952) and <u>Daughters of the Lonesome Isle</u> (1945); ARNOLD SCHOENBERG, <u>Sechs Kleine Klavierstücke</u>, <u>Op. 19</u> (1911); JOSEF MATTHIAS HAUER, <u>Sieben Zwölftonspiele</u> (1946-1955); ANTON WEBERN, Variations for Piano, <u>Op. 27</u> (1936). Performed by:

Araceli Chacon, piano

#### July 15 and 16

JOHN CAGE, String Quartet in Four Parts (1950); HENRY COWELL, Quartet No. 4 (The United) (1936); GIACINTO SCELSI, Quartet No. 3 (1963); CHRISTIAN WOLFF, String Quartet Exercises Out of Songs (1975). Performed by:

Friday and Saturday evenings in the Sculpture Garden of The Museum of Modern Art are made possible by a grant from Mobil

Joshua Gordon, cello Don Krishnaswami, viola Kelly Leon, violin Nobu Wakabayashi, violin

#### July 22 and 23

MORTON FELDMAN, Why Patterns? (1978); JOHN CAGE, Music for Three (1984). Performed by:

Araceli Chacon, piano David Fedele, flutes Patricia Niemi, percussion

#### July 29 and 30

ZOLTAN JENEY, Valse Triste (1979), Arthur Rimbaud in the Desert (1976), and Kato NK 300 (1979); JOHN CAGE, Litany for the Whale (1980); Child of Tree (1975), Experiences No. 2 (1948), A Flower (1950), She is Asleep (1943), The Wonderful Widow of Eighteen Springs (1942); ALBERTO SAVINIO, Amitié-Tragédie (1914); ERIK SATIE, Trois Poèmes d'Amour (1914). Performed by:

Vanessa Ayers, mezzo-soprano Araceli Chacon, piano Patricia Niemi, percussion Cynthia Wuco, soprano

#### August 5 and 6

JOHN CAGE, Sonatas and Interludes (1946-48). Performed by:

Rudolf Meister, prepared piano

### August 12 and 13

JOHN CAGE, <u>Credo in Us</u> (1942), <u>Second Construction</u> (1940), <u>Quartet</u> (1935); <u>Amores</u> (1943), <u>Inlets</u> (1977), and <u>Imaginary Landscape</u> No. 2 (1942). Performed by:

Regina Brija, percussion Maya Gunji, percussion John Jutsum, percussion/piano Patricia Niemi, percussion

#### August 19 and 20

GIACINTO SCELSI, Three Pieces (1961); JO KONDO, Standing (1973); JOHN CAGE, Sixteen Dances (1951). Performed by:

Erik Charlston, percussion
David Fedele, flute
Andrew Gordon, piano
Joshua Gordon, cello
Maya Gunji, percussion
John Jutsum, percussion
Melissa Kleinbart, violin
Charles Lazarus, trumpets
Patricia Niemi, percussion
Paul Zukofsky, conductor

#### August 26 and 27

JOHN CAGE, Quartets I-VIII (1976); ERIK SATIE, Relâche, Part I and Part II (1924) and Cinema/Entr'acte. Performed by:

and and Eun Mee Ahn, violin Beth Albert, percussion Joseph Berger, french horn Chris Bosco, clarinet the original Claire Chan, violing and represent the finest and most complete prints John Falcone, bassoon Frank Foerster, viola Amanda Forsyth, cello Anne Gabriele, oboe Dorinda Gay, trumpet Televis Joshua Gordon, cello Vicki Gunn, viola Peter Hensel, french horn Melissa Kleinbart, violin Donald Krishnaswami, viola Charles Lazarus, trumpet Jay Lesowski, bassoon Ann Lillya, oboe Tara Noval, violin Beth Nussbaum, violin
Joanne Opgenorth, violin Chul-In Park, violin Jean Queyras, cello Andrea Redcay, flute Roger Riccomini, trombone Glen Saunders, double bass Nobu Wakabayashi, violin Jessica Wakefield, violin Paul Zukofsky, conductor