

For Immediate Release July 1989

THREE STRING QUARTETS PERFORMED AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Friday and Saturday, July 21 and 22, 7:30 p.m.

The third program of the SUMMERGARDEN 1989 season at The Museum of Modern Art, featuring the music of Claude Debussy and Béla Bartók, presents Bartók's first three string quartets. The Garden is open from 6:00 until 10:00. The performances at 7:30 p.m. on July 21 and 22 include the following works:

Béla Bartók

String Quartet No. 1, Op. 7 (1908)
Lento
Allegretto
Introduzione
Allegro vivace

String Quartet No. 2, Op. 17 (1915-17)
Moderato
Allegro molto capriccioso
Lento

String Quartet No. 3 (1927)
Prima parte. Moderato
Seconda parte. Allegro
Ricapitulazione della prima parte. Moderato
Coda. Allegro molto

Performing are violinists Thomas Hanulik and Kelly Leon, violist Don Krishnaswami, and cellist Joshua Gordon. All of the artists are graduates of The Juilliard School.

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

Artistic director Paul Zukofsky comments in the program notes, "The composers whose ideas most influenced the young Béla Bartók were first Brahms, then Wagner, then Liszt...and finally Richard Strauss." These three string quartets show Bartok's musical development, Zukofsky continues, "beginning with the romanticism of the first quartet, continuing through the transitional although extremely beautiful second string quartet, with its amalgam of harmonies from those pieces of Liszt that we opened the season with, and Hungarian whirling folk dances, and arriving at the third quartet, in which the harmonic structure, the folk music, and the architectural structure of the piece all come together."

SUMMERGARDEN has been made possible by a grant from the Mobil Corporation since 1971. A special feature is the Summer Café, which offers light refreshments and beverages both before and after the concerts. Entrance is at 14 West 54 Street.

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For further information, contact Victoria Garvin, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9758.