

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
June 1992

SUMMERGARDEN 1992 CONCERT SERIES HONORS JOHN CAGE AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Friday and Saturday evenings, July 3 to August 29, 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. beginning July 3 and continuing through August 29, 1992. Made possible by generous grants from the Everett B. Birch Foundation and Daniel Shapiro, **SUMMERGARDEN 1992** offers a free series of concerts celebrating the music of composer John Cage on the occasion of his eightieth birthday. It was also at The Museum of Modern Art that John Cage gave his first New York concert in 1943.

The concerts, which begin at 7:30 p.m., are performed by young artists and recent graduates from The Juilliard School and other guest artists. Under the artistic direction of conductor and violinist Paul Zukofsky, the 1992 program marks the sixth year the Museum has collaborated with Juilliard.

All the programs in this year's **SUMMERGARDEN** are devoted to the recent work of the composer. The concert series opens on July 3 and 4 with the percussion piece, *FOUR*⁴, which Cage composed last fall. Highlights during the following weeks include *ASLSP* (1985), a work inspired by a line from James Joyce's *Finnegan's Wake*, and Cage himself reading from his book *Empty Words* (1973-78), a composition in four parts derived from Henry David Thoreau's journals. Other major works include the New York premiere of *EUROPERA 5* (1991) for singers and piano, which will be performed on three separate weekends, and *ONE*⁸ (April 1991), played by Michael Bach, the cellist for whom

it was written, with specially built bows. The series closes August 28 and 29 with *TEN* (October 1991) and Cage's tribute to the artist Jean Arp, entitled *BUT WHAT ABOUT THE NOISE OF CRUMPLING PAPER WHICH HE USED TO DO IN ORDER TO PAINT THE SERIES OF "PAPIERS FROISSES" OR TEARING UP PAPER TO MAKE "PAPIERS DECHIRES?" ARP WAS STIMULATED BY WATER (SEA, LAKE, AND FLOWING WATERS LIKE RIVERS), FORESTS* (August 1985).

Paul Zukofsky, artistic director of the series, is the newly-appointed Director of the Arnold Schoenberg Institute, University of Southern California, School of Music. He is considered one of America's leading performers. He founded and is the music director of The Youth Symphony of Iceland, and was made Knight of the Icelandic Order of the Falcon in recognition of his contribution to the cultural and musical heritage of Iceland. He is also President of Musical Observations, Inc., an organization concentrating on scientific research specifically concerning the performance of music. Mr. Zukofsky is a violin graduate and faculty member of The Juilliard School and is on its faculty. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1956, has appeared in many recitals, and has performed with major orchestras in the United States, Europe, Japan, and South America. He has made over fifty recordings, including the first recording of Artur Schnabel's *Symphony II*. Recently, he recorded Schnabel's *Third Symphony* with the Prague Symphony Orchestra.

Since 1971 **SUMMERGARDEN** has offered New Yorkers and visitors an escape from the city in the heart of Manhattan. A walled garden of trees, fountains, and reflecting pools, The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden is renowned for its setting of modern masterpieces by such artists as Calder,

Moore, Picasso, Rodin, and others -- the perfect ambiance for a hot summer evening.

Refreshing beverages are available at the Summer Café. Entrance to SUMMERGARDEN is at 14 West 54 Street.

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