

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

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or after

ROGER SESSIONS OPENS COMPOSERS' SHOWCASE CONCERTS AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

An all-Roger Sessions concert will be given at the Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, October 26, at 8:30 p.m., the opening Composers' Showcase presentation of the season. In this first New York retrospective of his work, Mr. Sessions will conduct his "Mass for Unison Choir and Organ" (1956). Also on the program are a group of three songs, the "String Quartet in E. Minor" (1936), and the "Second Piano Sonata" (1946).

Charles Schwartz is Director of Composers' Showcase, now in its fifth year.

Tickets for the concert, \$3, may be purchased at the Museum, 11 West 53 Street, or by mail. Museum members receive a 25 per cent discount on one or two. Tickets include admission to galleries, open every Thursday until 10 p.m. Dinner and refreshments are available.

Roger Sessions, considered one of the most important American composers of the century, will be 65 on December 28. His body of work is relatively small, approximately a dozen works, lyrical and meticulously crafted. As a teacher - he is currently Professor of Music at Princeton University - he has guided many younger composers, among them David Diamond, Leon Kirchner, and Milton Babbitt.

Janice Harsanyi, soprano, who has been heard in New York as soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra under Eugene Ormandy, will sing Mr. Sessions' "On the Beach of Fontana" (1929), words by James Joyce; "Romualdo's Song" (1923), from his incidental music to Andreien's "The Black Maskers"; and "The Fishwife's Song," an excerpt from his opera "The Trial of Lucullus" (1947). Miss Harsanyi will be accompanied at the piano by Richard Cumming.

The Galimir Quartet (Felix Galimir and Marvin Morgenstern, violins, Samuel Rhodes viola, and Charles McCracken, cello), associated in the past with other Sessions' performances, will perform his "String Quartet" (First) in E minor (1936). Paul Jacobs, pianist with the New York Philharmonic, will be soloist in Sessions' "Second Piano Sonata."

As the final work on the program, Mr. Sessions will conduct the American Choir, Margaret Hillis, Director, in his "Mass for Unison Choir and Organ" (1956). Written for the Anglican service, the mass was commissioned to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Kent School (1906-1956); with the exception of the Kyrie, which is in Greek, the text is in English. Leonard Raver, organist for the work, prepared the chorus.

A Wallingford Riegger - Silvestre Revueletas memorial concert will be given at the Museum on November 30.

Photographs and further information available from Herbert Bronstein, Associate
Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., N.Y.C. CI 5-8900.

Thursday, October 26, 1961 8:30 P.M.

COMPOSERS' SHOWCASE

CHARLES SCHWARTZ, DIRECTOR

A series of Thursday Evening
Concerts presented at
The Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53rd Street, N. Y. 19

A CONCERT IN HONOR OF ROGER SESSIONS

1. a. On the Beach of Fontana 1929
b. Romualdo's Song From "The Black Maskers" 1923
c. The Fishwife's Song From "The Trial of Lucullus" 1947
Janice Harsanyi - Soprano Richard Cumming - Piano
2. String Quartet in E Minor 1936
Tempo moderato
Adagio molto
Vivace molto
The Galimir Quartet
Felix Galimir - Violin I Samuel Rhodes - Viola
Marvin Morgenstern - Violin II Charles McCracken - Cello

INTERMISSION

3. Second Piano Sonata 1946
Allegro con fuoco
Lento
Misurato e pesante
Paul Jacobs - Piano
4. Mass For Unison Choir and Organ 1956
Kyrie
Gloria
Credo
Sanctus
Benedictus
Agnus Dei

Singers from the American Concert Choir (Margaret Hillis, Director)

Leonard Raver - Organ
Choir prepared by Mr. Raver

Conducted by Mr. Sessions

Shober Organ Courtesy of Richard Dorf

Tickets, which can be ordered by mail, are available only at the Museum of Modern Art. Members \$2.25, non-members \$3.00 (includes admission to Museum).

Concert made possible by the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore R. Weiler.

Composers' Showcase is sponsored by Contrasts in Contemporary Music, Inc. a non-profit, tax-exempt organization.