

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

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FOR RELEASE

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or after

The George Russell Sextet will give the Jazz in the Garden concert at the Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, August 23, at 8:30 p.m. An innovator and experimentalist, Russell describes his career as composer, arranger and soloist as the active attempt "to enrich the jazz language, produce new rhythms, new tonal combinations and, particularly, new forms." Russell, on piano, will be joined by Dave Baker, trombone, Don Ellis, trumpet, Paul Plummer, tenor sax, Steve Swallow, bass, and Pete La Roca, drums.

Admission to the Museum is \$1.00; members free. The jazz concert is an additional 50 cents. In case of rain, the concert will be cancelled; tickets will be honored at the concert following. Other Museum activities continue as announced until the 10 p.m. closing. Dinner and refreshments are available in the Penthouse restaurant.

Although essentially self-taught, George Russell has been influenced by Stravinsky, Bartok, Berg and Ravel. He was born in Cincinnati in 1923, where he began his musical life at 15 as a drummer in a local club. At 17 he was studying music at Wilberforce University and playing in the college dance band. At 20 he played drums for Benny Carter, wrote for Carter, and arranged for Earl Hines. He has since composed for Dizzy Gillespie, Buddy De Franco, and Charlie Parker, All About Rosie, a jazz work in three movements, was commissioned by the Festival of Fine Arts, Brandeis University, in 1957. Russell's many recordings on Decca, RCA Victor, Columbia, Atlantic and Riverside include his own compositions, notably The Day John Brown was Hanged, Concerto For Billy the Kid, Ezz-Thetic, and Ye Beelzebub. Jazz in the Space Age represents Russell's most ambitious use of his Lydian Chromatic Concept of Tonal Organization, a theory based on 12-tone intervals. The Russell Sextet made its first New York appearance in Jazz in the Garden in 1960.

Jazz in the Garden is presented by the Museum in cooperation with the United Nations Jazz Society. Gary Keys, Herb Snitzer and Richard Jennings are in charge of programing and production.

Monkey Business (1952), with Cary Grant, Ginger Rogers, Charles Coburn and Marilyn Monroe will be shown in the Museum auditorium at 8 p.m. Also on the program is Ransom of Red Chief, an episode from O. Henry's Full House (1952) with Fred Allen and Oscar Levant.

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Further information available from Herbert Bronstein, Associate Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, New York. Circle 5-8900.