

# the Museum of Modern Art

West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

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FOR RELEASE:

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Pee Wee Russell will lead an all-star quintet including cornetist Bobby Hackett in Jazz in the Garden at The Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, July 22, at 8:30 p.m. The legendary clarinetist will also be joined by Dave Frishberg, piano, George Tucker, bass, and Oliver Jackson, drums. The group plays the sixth in a series of ten Thursday evening promenade concerts sponsored jointly by the Museum and Down Beat Magazine.

The regular Museum admission, \$1.00, admits visitors to galleries, open Thursdays until 10 p.m. Tickets for Jazz in the Garden are an additional 50 cents. A few chairs are available on the garden terraces, but most of the audience stands or sits on the ground. Cushions may be rented for 25 cents. Sandwiches and soft drinks are available to concert-goers in the Garden Restaurant. Dinner is served to the public in the Penthouse Restaurant from 6 to 8. In case of rain, the concert will be canceled; tickets will be honored at the concert following.

Once dubbed "the Gertrude Stein of jazz" because of his highly individualistic approach to his instrument, Russell, with a style ranging from poetic to satiric, has never become dated. Though frequently associated with jazz of a Dixieland flavor, in 1963 he surprised the jazz world by recording with a pianoless quartet, playing a modern repertoire with pieces by Thelonius Monk and John Coltrane. In 1964 he was teamed with Monk and his quartet at the Newport Festival.

Born in 1906 in St. Louis, Russell was a close associate of such pioneer jazzmen of the 20s as Bix Beiderbecke, Leon Rappolo and Frank Trumbauer. He played in Chicago with the founders of Chicago Style Jazz. In 1927 he came to New York where he worked and recorded with Red Nichols, Benny Goodman, Ben Pollack, Jack Teagarden and other leading players of the day. He was among the first to bring jazz to New York's famed 52nd Street, working at the Onyx Club with trumpeter Louis Prima, whose big band he later joined. After working briefly with Bobby Hackett's

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big band in 1938, he began a long association with guitarist Eddie Condon, sparkplug of small-group traditional jazz, and was for years a fixture at Nick's and Eddie Condon's in Greenwich Village. Russell won first place on clarinet in the Down Beat International Critic's Poll in 1964 and 1965.

Russell's Museum concert will be videotaped by NBC-TV for broadcast later this summer as part of the Kaleidoscope series.

For Jazz in the Garden, Dan Morgenstern, New York editor of Down Beat, is Chairman of a Program Committee consisting of David Himmelstein, editor of FM Magazine, Charles Graham, a sound systems specialist, and Herbert Bronstein, Series Director.

The series will continue July 29 with the Roy Eldridge Quintet featuring Richie Kamuca.

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Photographs and additional information available from Linda Goldsmith, Assistant,  
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