The Jaki Byard Quartet will appear in Jazz in the Garden at The Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, August 5, at 8:30. Byard, one of the foremost pianists on the contemporary scene, leads a group consisting of Joe Farrell on tenor and soprano sax and flute, George Tucker, bass, and Allen Dawson, drums and vibrapharp. The Quartet combines the melodic flow and rhythmic drive of mainstream jazz with current harmonic innovations. The program is the eighth 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.

Born in Worcester, Mass. in 1922, Byard has been a professional musician since the age of 16. In addition to leading his own groups and working as a solo pianist, he has played with and arranged for the big bands of Herb Pomeroy and Maynard Ferguson, the combo of Earl Bostic, and, most notably, the Jazz Workshop of Charles Mingus. Byard adds fresh ideas to a piano style built on the spectrum of jazz piano from ragtime to progressive. He is also an accomplished saxophonist, plays trumpet, trombone, guitar and drums, and is known as a composer.

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 August 12 with the Milt Jackson Quintet.

Photographs and additional information available from Linda Goldsmith, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. Circle 5-8900.