The Museum of Modern Art
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FOR RELEASE:
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JAZZ IN THE GARDEN 1970

For the third year, Ed Bland has been appointed Program Director of The Museum of Modern Art's summer Jazz in the Garden series. Under a new format this year, the series will begin on June 18, and concerts have been extended to two hours. A native of Chicago, Mr. Bland studied musicology at the University of Chicago and musical composition with John Baker and Wallingford Riegger. Since his arrival in New York some ten years ago he has worked as composer, arranger, and producer for Al Hirt, Lionel Hampton, Junior Wells, Richie Havens, and Clark Terry, among others. In recent months he has conducted his own compositions or arrangements for recording sessions with Dizzy Gillespie, The Hesitations, Country Joe and the Fish, and Barry Melton. He is currently a record producer for GWP Records, a subsidiary of Gerard W. Purcell Associates, and was instrumental in the execution of GWP's Astrological Music Series.

Also active in television and film, Mr. Bland has written, directed, and produced "The Cry of Jazz," a semi-documentary film (now distributed by Grove Press) which sought to establish the relationship between jazz music and Negro life in America. He served as script consultant on Shirley Clarke's "The Cool World," and was musical consultant for the Camera 3 program shown on CBS last year, "Really the Country Blues," which featured Buddy Guy and Son House. He is currently finishing a screenplay entitled "The American Hero."

In selecting the series of programs, Mr. Bland is concerned with presenting a survey of contemporary musical styles, including some of the attempts that have been made to synthesize jazz and rock. The guiding principle is to offer a broad view of current musical styles, represented by new young talents as well as older musicians who are having a particular impact on the emerging young musicians.

Weather permitting, the concerts are held in the Sculpture Garden on ten consecutive Thursday evenings, when the Museum is open until 10:00 P.M. Admission to the concerts is $1.00, in addition to the regular Museum entrance fee ($1.50, members free). This year the concerts will begin at 7:30 and last for two hours.

Additional information available from Garry George, Assistant to the Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10019. 956-7504.