

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

NO. 106 A

FOR RELEASE ON OR AFTER:
SEPTEMBER 4, 1971

MODERN MUSEUM OFFERS UNIQUE DANCE PROGRAM

Lonny Joseph Gordon, the first non-Japanese ever invited to study in the Grand Kabuki Theater under the personal direction of the great Kanzaburo Nakamura XVII, will dance in concert with his Kinetic Art Theater in the Museum of Modern Art Sculpture Garden, 8 West 54 Street, September 10 and 11 starting at 8 p.m. Two of the dances will have their world premiers and the program, free to the public, will be the highlight of the Museum's SUMMERGARDEN weekends.

The Kinetic Art Theater, under founder-Director Gordon, grew out of the association between Mr. Gordon and the Rappongi Underground Theater of Tokyo during 1968-69. The company explores negative and positive space and frequently invites audience participation in helping to create new structures.

In Solos for Group, which was first performed at The Museum of Modern Art in Stockholm and will premier in New York during this engagement, whistles, the only sound accompaniment, will signal the beginnings and endings of each dancer's solos. As the company performs the world premier of Real Life Stories Mr. Gordon will accompany them with an interpretive talk. Derelict Dances will also world premier during this engagement. Sunga, a work in progress, presents as many interpretive possibilities for the audience as the environment contains. During the dance the exterior and interior environment of the audience is the accompaniment for the dance: bird songs, traffic sounds, the sound of water in the Sculpture Garden pools - even the onlooker's own heart beats. Cloudrifts and Winterivers, a work in progress, features an original music score composed by Nagasawa Katsutoski. The evening will also feature Mr. Gordon's widely acclaimed solo piece Phrases, Fields - Breath Groups, Kanda, 6 P.M. During this dance the audience repeats the sounds made by Mr. Gordon and, in so doing, controls the energy level of the dance.

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The other members of the company are: Suzanne Anderson, Walter Dunnett III, James Hobson, Robert Hollister, Susan Lundberg, Gale Ormiston, Jerry Rosario, Masako Saito from Japan, Andrew Skalko, Mary Jane Skarren, Edward Thompson, Yung Yung Tsui from Taiwan, Jane Witucki and Louise Wykell.

Lonny Gordon studied dance, art and theater in Japan from 1967 to 1969 and again in 1970 on two successive Fulbright-Hays grants. He has been a guest artist on the faculties of the University of Wisconsin, The University of Stockholm Ballet Academy, India's National School of Drama, The University of Malaysia Experimental Theater, Taiwan's National College of Chinese Culture, Jacob's Pillow and was an Artist in Residence at Springfield College during the spring of 1971. From July 1969 through January 1970 Mr. Gordon made a solo concert and lecture tour supported by The United States Information Agency. He traveled, performed and lectured in Russia, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Nepal, India, Ceylon, Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong, The Republic of China and Japan.

On SUMMERGARDEN weekends the Sculpture Garden is open free to the public every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. Light refreshments are available and the Friday and Saturday entertainment program is changed weekly. The SUMMERGARDEN program is made possible through a grant from the Mobil Foundation.

For additional information contact Joan Wallace, Press Coordinator, SUMMERGARDEN, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 St., New York, NY 10019.
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