The Museum of Modern Art

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SUMMERGARDEN OPENS FOR THIRD SEASON JUNE 1

NOTE:

A press preview of the dress rehearsal of the opening performance of <u>Summergarden</u> will be held at 10:30 am Thursday, May 31.

Thanks to the continuing generosity of Mobil Foundation, SUMMERGARDEN will open its gates on Friday night, June 1, for another season. The hours are 6 pm to 11 pm and access to the Garden is through the entrance at 8 W. 54 Street. To inaugurate a third year of SUMMERGARDEN The Museum of Modern Art will present the LAURA FOREMAN DANCE COMPANY and JOHN WATTS.

For this opening LAURA FOREMAN and JOHN WATTS have created a piece especially for The Museum of Modern Art's unique Garden with its trees, pools, fountains, and terraces. Ms. Foreman's choreography is performed to Mr. Watts' Arp synthesizer by her 10-person troupe, with the addition of two children, an opera singer, and several cloth dummies. Interspersed with the dances will be solo performances of John Watts on the synthesizer.

SUMMERGARDEN is Mobil's gift to New York. It enables The Museum of Modern Art to open its award-winning Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden without charge to the public on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings from 6 pm to 11 pm from June 1 through September 30. Diverse entertainments are usually offered on Friday and Saturday. Chosen by Ed Bland, Program Director, this year they range from traditional folk singers to avant garde dancers, with everything imaginable in between.

Laura Foreman's performance in the SUMMERGARDEN program is being made possible in part with financial assistance from the Creative Artists Public Service. C.A.P.S. offers fellowships of recognition and financial support to individual artists to create new works and to participate in community activities.

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Other performers scheduled for SUMMERGARDEN include Daphne Hellman, a jazz harpist; Elaine Summers, a dancer whose company mixes technology and dance in its work; Carl Rosenstock, a folksinger who has previously played at clubs and colleges; and Neid Sofian, who will demonstrate classical Egyptian bellydancing techniques.