

Summergarden

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-7501 or 956-7504

NO. 67
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Performance dates:
July 26 & 27)

THE SMALLEST SHOW ON EARTH COMES TO SUMMERGARDEN

PUPPETMAN Steve Hansen, a walking one-man Punch and Judy Show, cavorts on foot along with the action of his characters at 8 PM and again at 9:30 PM, Friday and Saturday, July 26 and 27, in the Sculpture Garden of The Museum of Modern Art. Free admission to Summergarden, the Museum's public park on weekend evenings, is through the gate at 8 West 54 Street from 6 PM to 11 PM.

Hansen's puppet show is a tongue-in-cheek satire of the classic Punch and Judy plot loaded with topical gags and features a well-known political figure as well as the traditional characters. His half-human "walking stage," a yellow bag with clown-costumed legs, is based on an ancient tradition. It conceals an elaborate array of sound effects: bicycle horns between his legs, bells and tambourines on his hips, a slide whistle around his neck, and air hoses enabling him to blow sirens, kazoos, bird calls, and a puff of smoke for the devil.

Hansen takes pride in the quality and ingeniousness of his production: he writes his own material; makes his own props, puppets and stage; and takes seriously his craft as an actor. He supports his "commedia dell'arte" with street performances for kids, old folks, college students and families, and noon-hour crowds of businessmen and tourists in parks and plazas everywhere.

On August 2 and 3, Summergarden presents BRAID performing original and familiar folk-pop material, and on August 9 and 10, singer-songwriter-composer JOHN GUTH appears.

Additional information available from Earl Hatleberg, Coordinator, Summergarden, and Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., New York, NY 10019. Phone: (212) 956-7504; 956-7501.
