

# Summergarden The Museum of Modern Art

NO. 39

FOR RELEASE: MAY 26, 1975



## MAHAVISHNU CHOIR OPENS FIFTH SUMMERGARDEN SEASON ON MAY 30

The 40 voice MAHAVISHNU CHOIR opens The Museum of Modern Art's fifth SUMMERGARDEN season with performances at 8 PM, Friday and Saturday, May 30 and 31. The Choir will sing devotional music composed by MAHAVISHNU JOHN McLAUGHLIN, the group's founder. Free admission is through the Sculpture Garden gate at 8 West 54 Street.

The Mahavishnu Choir was formed in 1970 when guitarist-composer Mahavishnu John McLaughlin set to music the poems of Indian Spiritual Master Sri Chinmoy. Since then the Choir, under the direction of Tanima Weiss, has appeared at The United Nations, Columbia University and Hunter College, among other East Coast universities, and has appeared at St. Thomas Church in New York and Boston University with Mahavishnu's newly formed 'East-West' group, Turiyananda Sangit ( a sanskrit phrase meaning 'the highest bliss of music').

The Choir's members come from all walks of life, some commuting great distances to attend rehearsals and performances. They sing for what Tanima, their director, calls " the joy we receive in dedicated service to humanity".

A grant from Mobil Oil Corporation enables The Museum to open its world famous Sculpture Garden as a free public park on weekend evenings as SUMMERGARDEN beginning May 30 and continuing through September 28, 1975. Entrance is through the Garden gate at 8 West 54 Street from 6 PM to 10 PM every Friday, Saturday and Sunday all summer. Informal performances of music are presented at 8 PM every Friday and Saturday.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Additional information available from Earl Hatleberg, Project Director,  
and Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum  
of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York NY 10019. Phone: (212) 956-7298