

Summergarden The Museum of Modern Art

NO. 44

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PRESS PREVIEW: Wed. June 2
time to be announced



"...a vocal combination of The New York Philharmonic and D-Day... a wild and witty melange of shrieks and murmurs that somehow emerges hauntingly melodic."

-- Larry Gordon, The SOHO Weekly News

"NATURAL SOUND goes back to raw pre-verbal expression and aesthetics. We are all musicians naturally. Music belongs to everyone."

-- Kirk Nurock, The Natural Sound Workshop

NATURAL SOUND OPENS 6TH SUMMERGARDEN ON FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1976

The Museum of Modern Art's Sixth SUMMERGARDEN season opens with experimental choral music by KIRK NUROCK and THE NATURAL SOUND WORKSHOP which will premiere a new work at 8 P.M., Friday and Saturday, June 4 and 5, 1976. Free admission is through the Sculpture Garden gate at 8 West 54 Street. SUMMERGARDEN is made possible by a grant from MOBIL.

The 32 concert SUMMERGARDEN season is organized into four monthly series: Experimental music in June; keyboard recitals of works by living American composers in July; country-blues, bluegrass and ragtime in August; and jazz in September.

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The Natural Sound Workshop will open the Experimental Music Series with AUDIENCE ORATORIO (1975) and the premiere of TRACK.

TRACK is a study in the ways physical movements affect production of vocal sound. Sudden jarring accents are created within a sustained tone by exaggerated jumping in place or head-snapping from side-to-side; couples embrace vigorously while sustaining vocal tones; the impact of bodies colliding chest-to-chest interrupts a pure unison.

Although the resulting action may suggest exercises in the martial arts, tumbling or a track meet, the staging is composed for musical value rather than for theatrical or dance-like themes.

"We are all musicians naturally," explains Nurock. "Music belongs to everyone. Each of us can develop an amazing variety of personal sounds which can be organized and performed as contemporary music."

Natural Sound uses neither instruments nor amplification -- only sounds made by the human voice and body. Nurock's unique musical explorations into the human sonic range utilize a concise vocabulary and system of notation, as well as elements of improvisation.

The New York Times has described Natural Sound Workshop performances as "a most beguiling assortment of effects executed with crisp virtuosity," and The Village Voice has called the group's choral sounds "extraordinary."

Nurock's Natural Sound Workshop performances are made possible in part by support from The New York State Council on the Arts.



KIRK NUROCK holds a Master's degree in Composition from the Juilliard School, where he studied with Vincent Persichetti and Roger Sessions. His scores have accompanied off-Broadway productions at the N.Y. Shakespeare Festival, the American Place Theatre, LaMama Experimental Theater Company and the Ensemble Studio Theater, as well as the Louis Falco, Daniel Nagrin and Kathryn Posin dance companies. Other music by Kirk Nurock can be heard on ABC Paramount, Impulse, United Artists, Capitol and Columbia records. Mr. Nurock is a member of the Executive Council of the Center for New Music, and the Advisory Board of Meet The Composer. He conducted the Broadway productions of Two Gentlemen of Verona, and Shelter and the national touring company of Hair.

photo: Helaine Messer

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June's experimental music includes TOM JOHNSON's Secret Songs (June 11 and 12); the rich modal textures and stark rhythms of LAURIE SPIEGEL's music produced with computers (June 18 and 19); and JOAN LA BARBARA's works for trained solo voice involving simultaneously sung notes (chords), electronically modified vocal sounds, and special breathing techniques (June 25 and 26).

The Museum of Modern Art's Sculpture Garden is open free to the public as SUMMER-GARDEN every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 6 P.M. to 10 P.M., June 4 through September 19, 1976. Free admission is through the Sculpture Garden gate at 8 West 54 St. Short informal concerts are presented every Friday and Saturday at 8 P.M.

SUMMERGARDEN is made possible by a grant from MOBIL.

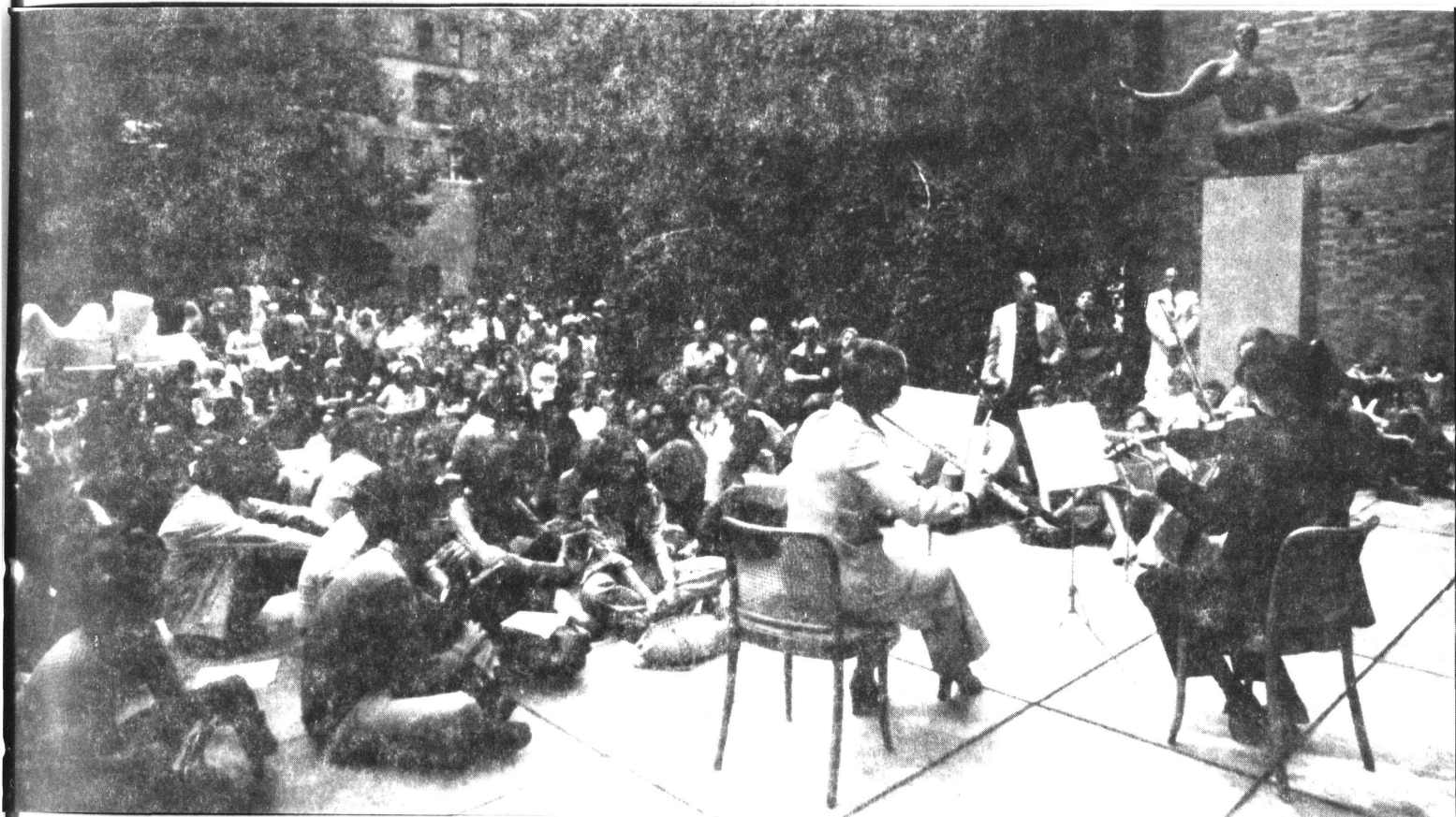


photo: Leonardo LeGrand

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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, N.Y. 10019 956-7298; 956-7501

Summergarden

The Museum of Modern Art

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1976 CONCERT SEASON

JUNE - EXPERIMENTAL MUSIC

- 4 & 5 - KIRK NUROCK AND THE NATURAL SOUND WORKSHOP
11 & 12 - TOM JOHNSON presents SECRET SONGS
18 & 19 - LAURIE SPIEGEL, computer music
25 & 26 - JOAN LA BARBARA, works for solo voice

JULY 2 & 3 - THE NO-GAP GENERATION JAZZ BAND SALUTES DIXIELAND

JULY - KEYBOARD RECITALS OF WORKS BY LIVING AMERICAN COMPOSERS

- 9 & 10 - LEONARD RAVER, New York. (Organ)
16 & 17 - VIVIEN TAYLOR, Cambridge. (Piano)
23 & 24 - DWIGHT PELTZER, New York. (Piano)
30 & 31 - ROSEMARY CATANESE, Detroit. (Piano)

AUGUST - COUNTRY-BLUES, BLUEGRASS, RAGTIME

- 6 & 7 - ROBERT "ONE-MAN" JOHNSON, country-blues
13 & 14 - JOSH WHITE, JR.
20 & 21 - To be announced
27 & 28 - To be announced

SEPTEMBER - JAZZ

TO BE ANNOUNCED

The Museum of Modern Art's world-famous Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden is open free to the public on weekend evenings from 6 PM to 10 PM every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 4 through September 19. Short informal concerts are presented at 8 PM Fridays and Saturdays. Free admission is through the Sculpture Garden gate at 8 West 54 Street.

Additional information available from Earl Hatleberg, Project Director, and Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 54 Street, New York, NY 10019. (212) 956-7298; 956-7501.