

# Summergarden The Museum of Modern Art

NO. 51  
FOR RELEASE: June 9, 1976

## "SECRET SONGS" IN SUMMERGARDEN

Composer/writer TOM JOHNSON will perform his most recent work "Secret Songs" at 8 PM, Friday and Saturday, June 11 and 12 in The Museum of Modern Art's SUMMERGARDEN. Free admission is through the Sculpture Garden gate at 8 West 54th Street.

"Secret Songs" ventures into sound poetry and experimental voice techniques.

"Many of the sounds involve personal associations that the audience can only guess at," explains the composer. "But in a more important sense, the songs are secrets even from the composer. Who can say what 'lolmo' or 'wolo yolo' may signify in all the living and dead languages of the world - and elsewhere?"

### SECRET SONGS

Composed and Performed by

TOM JOHNSON

1. Lolmo
2. Wolo Yolo
3. Chish Chish
4. Eya Eyao
5. Gbda
6. Langama Langa
7. Bagama Luji
8. Aya
9. Dibidib

\* \* \*

10. Bana Lana
11. Tomo Lasta
12. Glabl Ap
13. M-n-ng
14. Ta Tai
15. Swena Lena
16. Vzh
17. Oo Oo
18. Lolmo

(more)

Tom Johnson has worked in many mediums. "The Four Note Opera" is a satiric work that has now been produced in five languages. "Imaginary Music" is a book of drawings using music notation symbols. "Viable Alternatives" is a set of readings evoking audience participation. "The Masque of Clouds," a collaboration with Robert Kushner, is a modal opera in three acts. A book of prose instructions called "Private Pieces: Piano Music for Self-Entertainment" will be available later this year.

Johnson's performances in the June Experimental Music Series will be followed by LAURIE SPIEGEL's neo-romantic computer produced music on June 18 and 19, and JOAN LA BARBARA's vocal solos using experimental breath techniques, simultaneously sung notes, and electronic modification on June 25 and 26.

THE NO-GAP GENERATION JAZZ BAND SALUTES DIXIELAND on July 2 and 3, and LEONARD RAVER, VIVIEN TAYLOR, DWIGHT PELTZER and ROSEMARY CATANESE perform in the July series of recitals of works by living American composers. ROBERT "One-Man" JOHNSON opens country-blues, bluegrass and ragtime in August, and September features jazz.

The Museum of Modern Art's Sculpture Garden is open free to the public as SUMMERGARDEN, every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 6PM to 10PM, through September 19. Short informal concerts are presented at 8PM every Friday and Saturday, with Sundays reserved for enjoying the sculpture, the moonlight and the "music" of the splashing fountains. Free admission is through the Sculpture Garden gate at 8 West 54 Street.

SUMMERGARDEN is made possible by a grant from MOBIL.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 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. (212) 956-7298; 956-7501