



## **Summergarden**

For Immediate Release  
June 1991

### **SUMMERGARDEN 1991 CONCERT SERIES HONORS ERIK SATIE AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART**

Friday and Saturday evenings, July 5 to August 31, 6:00-10:00 p.m.  
The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden  
Concerts, 7:30 p.m.

**SUMMERGARDEN** returns to The Museum of Modern Art every Friday and Saturday evening from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. beginning July 5 and continuing through August 31, 1991. Made possible in part by NYNEX Corporation, **SUMMERGARDEN 1991** offers a free series of concerts celebrating the music of composer Erik Satie on the 125th anniversary of his birth.

The concerts, which begin at 7:30 p.m., are performed by young artists and recent graduates from The Juilliard School. Under the artistic direction of conductor and violinist Paul Zukofsky, the 1991 program marks the fifth year the Museum has collaborated with Juilliard.

The majority of the programs in this year's **SUMMERGARDEN** are devoted to Satie's own compositions, and several concerts examine the work of his contemporaries, including evenings dedicated to the music of Charles Koechlin, Alberto Savinio, and John Cage. The concert series opens on July 5 and 6 with two solo piano pieces: the complete incidental music to *Les Fils des Etoiles* (1891) and *Three Sarabandes* (1887), performed by Emily George. Other highlights include a rare performance of Cage's 1947 (completed in 1968) version of Satie's *Symphonic Drama in Three Parts (on the Dialogues of Plato)*

**Friday and Saturday evenings in the Sculpture Garden of  
The Museum of Modern Art are made possible in part by NYNEX**

(1917-18), arranged for two pianos, and a presentation of the Rosicrucian redemption opera *Uspud* (1893), orchestrated according to Satie's original instructions. The series closes August 30 and 31 with music composed for the Diaghilev ballet *Parade* (1917), a collaborative effort by Satie, Cocteau, Massine, and Picasso, and the Börlin ballet *Relâche* (1924), featuring a cinematic interlude directed by René Clair and starring Satie, Picabia, Man Ray, and Duchamp.

Erik Alfred Leslie Satie was born in Honfleur, France, in 1866. After studying at the Paris Conservatory, Satie worked as a pianist in various Montmartre cabarets. In 1891 he joined the Rosicrucians, a mystical Catholic sect, and composed several works for them. His work over the next three decades anticipated many of the major trends in music, including neoclassicism, mechanistic music, and the enobling of cabaret and popular musical forms. A meeting with Jean Cocteau in 1915 led to *Parade* (1917), a composition in which he incorporated avant-garde instrumentation that included a typewriter, steamship whistle, and siren. In later years, Satie was associated with Surrealist and Dadaist artists. According to Paul Zukofsky, "People often underestimate Satie, thinking of him only as the composer of little tripartite piano pieces. In reality, he was an extraordinary creator and composer, constantly searching for new ways to express ideals through music."

Considered one of the leading performers of American music in the United States, Paul Zukofsky joined The Juilliard School faculty in 1984. A Juilliard graduate, he made his Carnegie Hall debut as a violinist in 1956 and has appeared in recitals and performances with major orchestras in the United States, Europe, Japan, and South America. He has recorded music ranging from

J.S. Bach to Philip Glass. In 1988 he joined Dennis Russell Davies and the American Composers Orchestra as soloist in the world premiere of Glass's *Violin Concerto*, which was dedicated to Zukofsky and Davies. He conducted the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London in the first recording of Artur Schnabel's *Symphony No. 2* in 1988. Recently, Zukofsky was made a Knight of the Icelandic Order of The Falcon, in recognition of his contribution to the cultural and musical heritage of Iceland. Mr. Zukofsky is also President of Musical Observations, Inc., an organization concentrating on scientific research specifically concerning the performance of music.

Since 1971 **SUMMERGARDEN** has offered New Yorkers and visitors an escape from the city in the heart of Manhattan. A tranquil oasis of trees, fountains, and reflecting pools, the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden (release attached) is renowned for its setting of modern masterpieces by such artists as Matisse, Moore, Picasso, Rodin, and others--the perfect ambiance for a hot summer evening.

Refreshing beverages are available at the Summer Café. Entrance to **SUMMERGARDEN** is at 14 West 54 Street.

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For further information or photographic materials, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.