

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
July 1992

SUMMERGARDEN 1992 SERIES HONORS JOHN CAGE AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Friday and Saturday evenings, July 17-25, 6:00-10:00 p.m.
The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden
Concerts, 7:30 p.m.

SUMMERGARDEN 1992, which is made possible by generous grants from the Everett B. Birch Foundation and Daniel Shapiro, offers a free series of concerts celebrating the music of composer John Cage on the occasion of his eightieth birthday. Under the artistic direction of conductor and violinist Paul Zukofsky, the concerts are performed by young artists and recent graduates of the Juilliard School, as well as guest artists. The concerts start at 7:30 p.m., and the Sculpture Garden is open from 6:00 until 10:00 p.m. The programs for the weekends of July 17-18 and July 24-25 are as follows:

July 17-18

This weekend's program is devoted to two of John Cage's solo instrumental works.

*ONE*⁸ (1991) is for solo cello and is performed by guest artist Michael Bach, the cellist for whom it was composed. The work calls for a modern "curved bow" with a high arch and with a leaver worked by the right-hand thumb. This allows the bow-hair tension to change, thereby allowing for either melodic (single string) or polyphonic (sustained multiple string) playing.

ASLSP (1985) is for solo piano and is performed by Michael Torre, an artist from The Juilliard School. The title is an abbreviation of "as slow as possible." It also refers to "Soft morning city! Lsp!," the first exclamations in the last paragraph of *Finnegan's Wake*. Mr. Cage has written, "There are eight pieces, any one of which must be omitted and any one of which must be repeated. The repetition may be placed anywhere (even before its appearance in the suite), but otherwise the order of the pieces as written shall be maintained."

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July 24 - 25

Soprano Cheryl Marshall and pianists Michael Torre and Pedja Muzijevic are the performers in this weekend's program.

Cheryl Marshall sings two works from November 1984 for unaccompanied voice: *MIRAKUS*², twelve "songs" with texts derived from *Marcel Duchamp; Notes* by Alexina S. Duchamp and Paul Matisse; and *SELKUS*², thirteen "songs" with texts by the same authors.

Mr. Torre and Mr. Muzijevic perform *TWO*² (1989), which, in Mr. Cage's words, "is in response to a conversation in Leningrad with Sofia Gubaidulina: 'There is an inner clock.' It is also a *renga*."

The concert closes with Ms. Marshall and Mr. Torre performing *SONNEKUS*², *EIGHT WHISKUS*, and *NOWTH UPON NACHT*, in which the singer is enjoined "to sing without break after singing *The Wonderful Widow of Eighteen Springs*."

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 press passes to the concerts, contact Timothy Rohan, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750, or Sheila Porter, 212/874-7887.