

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
June 1995

SUMMERGARDEN 1995 AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden
Friday and Saturday Evenings, June 30 to August 26, Open 6:00 p.m.
Concerts, 8:30 p.m.

SUMMERGARDEN opens at The Museum of Modern Art on June 30, 1995, and continues for nine summer weekends through August 26. The Museum's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden is open free to the public every Friday and Saturday evening beginning at 6:00 p.m., with free concerts at 8:30.

SUMMERGARDEN 1995 is made possible, for the fourth year, by a generous grant from the Everett B. Birch Foundation.

This year's series of concerts, entitled *COMING OF AGE: The Flowering of American Music, 1945 - 1970*, offers an overview of the years directly after World War II when American music developed a voice entirely its own. The concert series presents forty-two American composers covering an enormous range of styles, including such innovators as Milton Babbitt, Elliott Carter, Conlon Nancarrow, Steve Reich, and John Cage, as well as more traditional composers such as Samuel Barber, Irving Fine, Walter Piston, and Jack Beeson.

The concerts are performed by young artists and recent graduates of The Juilliard School of Music, under the artistic direction of Joel Sachs. This is the ninth year that the Museum and Juilliard have collaborated on

SUMMERGARDEN.

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SUMMERGARDEN 1995 opens on June 30 and July 1 with a program of chamber orchestra music which comprises *Divertimento for Nine Instruments*, by Walter Piston; *Serious Song*, for string orchestra, by Irving Fine; *Incenters*, by Jacob Druckman; and *Knoxville; Summer of 1915*, by Samuel Barber.

"The explosion of American art music that followed World War II brought this country abruptly to international prominence," writes Dr. Sachs. "While older composers were reaching a professional maturity that had been disrupted by the conflict, a younger generation was bringing a host of fresh ideas. Postwar American music became a bubbling brew of serial composition, improvisatory composition, electronic music, performance art, and all shades of ideas less obviously novel but equally fruitful. The hopes of prewar pioneers such as Henry Cowell and Charles Ives were finally borne out: America developed a music of its own."

Conductor/pianist Joel Sachs is Codirector of the internationally acclaimed ensemble "Continuum." He is a faculty member of The Juilliard School, where he is Director of its annual "Focus!" festival of twentieth-century music, Director/Conductor of The New Juilliard Ensemble (a chamber orchestra for new music), and Chairman of the Department of Music History. He is also a member of the faculty of the Dartington International Summer School in England. His many appearances include increasing activity as a conductor in Russia and in Europe. He holds a Ph.D. in musicology from Columbia University and is currently writing a biography of Henry Cowell.

Over 20,000 people attended **SUMMERGARDEN 1994**. Since 1971, the acclaimed summer music series 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 Museum's Sculpture Garden is renowned for its setting of modern masterpieces by artists ranging from Auguste Rodin, Henri Matisse, and Pablo Picasso to Claes Oldenburg and Joel Shapiro.

Entrance to **SUMMERGARDEN** is at 14 West 54 Street. Weekly program information is available to the public by calling **212/708-9491**.

Sette MoMA, the Museum's restaurant, offers light refreshments and beverages in the Sculpture Garden. Located on the Museum's second floor, **Sette MoMA** also offers afternoon tea on The Terrace from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and dinner from 5:00 to 11:30 p.m.

The Museum galleries are open on Friday evenings until 8:30 p.m. and Saturday evenings until 6:00 p.m. Jazz in The Garden Café, offered every Friday evening from September to June, resumes September 1, 1995.

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For further press information or photographic materials, contact Sheila Porter, 212/874-7887, or Mary-Anne Smith, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9750.