SUMMERGARDEN 1995 CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
August 18-19 and August 25-26, 1995

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


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 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.

- more -
The program for August 18-19 is devoted to four cello works of widely diverse styles. Gunther Schuller’s *Fantasy for Cello Solo* (1951) dates from the period when this remarkably versatile composer was putting his personal stamp on Schoenberg’s twelve-tone method. Roger Sessions’ *Six Pieces for Violoncello* (1966) is an intensely personal work, much of which relates to interactions with members of his own family. It closes with the earliest of the four: Elliott Carter’s *Sonata for Cello and Piano* (1948), which has become a classic of the contemporary repertory. As a complete contrast to these works, Hall Overton’s *Sonata for Cello and Piano* (1960) reflects the expertise the composer had developed as a jazz pianist.

**Music for Cello**
- *Fantasy for Cello Solo*, Gunther Schuller
- *Sonata for Cello and Piano*, Hall Overton
- *Six Pieces for Violoncello*, Roger Sessions
- *Sonata for Cello and Piano*, Elliott Carter

Darrett Adkins, cello; Ju-Ying Song, piano

The program on August 25-26 is devoted to three equally contrasting works. Conlon Nancarrow’s *String Quartet No. 1* (1945) was his last work for live performers for nearly four decades. Dr. Sachs has said, "Despite the rhythmic complexity, Nancarrow’s music always retains its humanity and good humor; it may be the happiest music since Haydn’s." George Crumb’s only string quartet, *Black Angels, 13 Images from the Dark Land* for electric string quartet, was completed in 1970 *in tempore belli* (in time of war) and, in the composer’s words, was "conceived as a kind of parable on our troubled contemporary world." The work creates a surrealistic atmosphere through

- more -
amplification and unusual performance techniques. The program closes with Elliott Carter’s *String Quartet No. 2*, a milestone in American composition for this time-honored medium.

The *String Quartet*

String Quartet No. 1, Conlon Nancarrow
Black Angels, 13 Images from the Dark Land, for electric string quartet, George Crumb
String Quartet No. 2, Elliott Carter

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; the dining room and terrace are also open for dinner until 11:00 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 on Friday evenings from September to June, resumes Friday, September 1, 1995.

* * *

For further information or press passes to the concerts, contact Mary-Anne Smith, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9757, or Sheila Porter, 212/874-7887.

No. 35.3