

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
June 1997

SUMMERGARDEN 1997 AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

**The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden
Friday and Saturday evenings, July 4 to August 30, 1997
Open 6:00 p.m., Concerts 8:30 p.m.**

SUMMERGARDEN, a series of free concerts in The Museum of Modern Art's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden, opens on July 4, 1997 and continues for nine weekends through August 30. The Sculpture Garden is open free to the public each Friday and Saturday evening from 6:00 p.m. on. The concerts begin at 8:30 p.m. **SUMMERGARDEN**, an annual tradition since 1971, is made possible for the sixth year by a generous grant from the Everett B. Birch Foundation.

This year's series of concerts, entitled *The New Americans: A Century of Musical Innovation*, presents music by 46 composers of the twentieth century who immigrated to the United States from 26 countries around the world, including Central and South America, the Middle East, Europe, and countries of the former Soviet Union. The composers range from historical figures such as Béla Bartók, Igor Stravinsky, and Arnold Schoenberg to established contemporary composers, including Mario Davidovsky and Chou Wen-Chung; and younger composers such as Schulamit Ran and Bright Sheng, whose works represent leading trends.

The concerts are performed by young artists and recent graduates of The Juilliard School of Music, under the direction of conductor and pianist Joel Sachs, who conceived the program. This is the eleventh year the Museum and Juilliard have collaborated on **SUMMERGARDEN**.

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Since 1971 the acclaimed **SUMMERGARDEN** 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 sculptural masterpieces.

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

Light refreshments and beverages are offered in the Sculpture Garden by **Sette MoMA**, the Museum's restaurant. Located on the Museum's second floor, the restaurant also offers dinner from 5:00 to 10:30 p.m.

The Museum galleries are open on Friday evenings until 8:30 p.m. and Saturday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

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For further press information or photographic materials contact Sheila Porter, Press Representative, 212/874-7887, or Uri Perrin, Department of Communications, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9757.