

# The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release  
June 1996

## SUMMERGARDEN 1996 AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden  
Friday and Saturday evenings, July 5 to August 31, 1996  
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 5, 1996, and continues for nine summer weekends through August 31. The Sculpture Garden is open free to the public every Friday and Saturday evening from 6:00 p.m. on, and the concerts begin at 8:30.

SUMMERGARDEN, an annual tradition since 1971, is made possible for the fifth year by a generous grant from the Everett B. Birch Foundation.

This year's series of concerts, entitled *Paris: New Music 1896-1996*, explores a wide range of music by Paris-based composers of the past century whose work was considered innovative for its time. Featured are works by senior composers such as Gabriel Fauré, Maurice Ravel, Claude Debussy, and Erik Satie as well as young contemporary composers who are scarcely known in New York, such as Pascal Dusapin and Eric Tanguy. The series includes two Americans: Virgil Thomson and Ned Rorem. [See attached list of programs for more details.]

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

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Of his choice of repertory Dr. Sachs wrote, in the preface to the **SUMMERGARDEN** program: "This festival can only present a sampling of a hundred years of musical life. It begins with a late work of Ernest Chausson, one of nineteenth-century Paris's most important composers, and extends through the young men and women who are at the center of its current musical life, including all along the way both French and resident foreign composers."

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. This summer the Sculpture Garden features a special installation of works from the Museum's collection organized by Philip Johnson in conjunction with the exhibition **FROM BAUHAUS TO POP: MASTERWORKS GIVEN BY PHILIP JOHNSON**.

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 by **Sette MoMA**, the Museum's restaurant, in the Sculpture Garden. 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 Shelia Porter, Press Representative, 212/874-7887 or Uri Perrin, Department of Communications, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9757.