

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
June 1996

SUMMERGARDEN 1996 OPENS AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
Friday, July 5 and Saturday, July 6
Paris: New Music 1896-1996
Music for Chamber Orchestra

The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden
Garden opens at 6:00 p.m. Concerts begin at 8:30 p.m.

SUMMERGARDEN, a series of free concerts in The Museum of Modern Art's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden, opens over the July 4 weekend with a program that explores the rich variety of music created in Paris during the last one hundred years. Music director Joel Sachs has selected a wide range of established composers for the concerts, including Pierre Boulez, Claude Debussy, Gabriel Fauré, Arthur Honegger, Maurice Ravel, and Iannis Xenakis, as well as representatives of a younger generation of composers whose works are scarcely known in this country. Many compositions will mark their American and world premieres.

Of the more than three dozen composers represented in this year's repertory, all are either French or closely associated with Paris. Each program is devoted to a specific musical combination, such as a string quartet, cello and piano, flute and piano, or, on occasion, to larger chamber ensembles or a chamber orchestra for works like Honegger's *Symphony No. 2* or Satie's *Relâche*.

The first **SUMMERGARDEN** program, on July 5 and 6, includes three musical styles from three generations of composers. Michaël Levinas's *Troisième Arcade: Le Choeur des Arches* for strings and electronic sounds receives its New York premiere. It is followed by the American premiere of *Hommage en Cristal* for piano and strings by the

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young Japanese composer Karen Tanaka, who lives in Paris. The program closes with Honegger's *Symphony No. 2*.

The concerts are performed by young artists and recent graduates of The Juilliard School of Music in The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden, which is open free to the public from 6:00 p.m. Entrance to **SUMMERGARDEN** is at 14 West 54 Street. Weekly program information is available to the public by calling 212/708-9491 or by visiting the MoMA Web site at <http://www.moma.org>. Concerts begin at 8:30 p.m.

SUMMERGARDEN 1996 is made possible, for the fifth consecutive year, by a generous grant from the Everett B. Birch Foundation.

Music for Chamber Orchestra
Joel Sachs, conductor

Michaël Levinas (b. 1949): *Troisième Arcade: Le Choeur des Arches* (1984)
 New York premiere
 Karen Tanaka (b. 1961): *Hommage en Cristal* (1991) American premiere
 Arthur Honegger (1892-1955): *Symphony No. 2* (1940)

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 serves 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.