

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release

SUMMERGARDEN 1996 AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Paris: New Music 1896-1996

The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden

Garden opens at 6:00 p.m. Concerts begin at 8:30 p.m.

Friday August 30, Saturday August 31

SUMMERGARDEN, a series of free concerts in The Museum of Modern Art's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden, concludes on August 30 and 31 with a concert of music for solo piano, performed by John Root.

The program includes works by seven composers, including such major figures as Ernest Chausson, Claude Debussy, and Igor Stravinsky. Compositions by two members of *The Six*—Georges Auric and Germaine Tailleferre—are featured as well as a rarely heard piece by Paul Dukas. Also included are *Ile de Feu I and II* from *Rhythmic Etudes* (1949), a seminal group of works by Olivier Messaien, whose legacy as one of the greatest French music teachers of the post-war period has been acknowledged during **SUMMERGARDEN** 1996 through performances of music composed by his students.

To close **SUMMERGARDEN**'s tribute to music composed in Paris between 1896 and 1996, the final concert begins with an elegant example of *fin-de-siècle* French neo-classicism composed in 1896: Ernest Chausson's *Quelques Danses*. The concert ends exuberantly with Stravinsky's *Three Movements from Petrushka* (1910-1911, transcribed by the composer in 1921).

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August 30 and 31
Music for Solo Piano

- Ernest Chausson (1855-1899): *Quelques danses* (1896)
 Claude Debussy (1862-1918): *L'isle joyeuse* (1904)
 Paul Dukas (1865-1935): *La plainte, au loin, du Faune* (1920)
 Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992): *Ile de Feu I and II* (from *Four Rhythmic Etudes*, 1949)
 Germaine Tailleferre (1892-1983): *Partita* (1957)
 Georges Auric (1899-1983): *Imaginées V* (1974)
 Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971): *Three movements from Petrushka* (1910-11,
 transcribed by the composer, 1921)

The concerts are performed by young artists and recent graduates from 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.

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 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. The Museum galleries are open Friday evenings until 8:30 p.m. and Saturday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

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No. 33.6

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.