Natural Design as Landscape Art: Innovation with Roots in the Past

Although natural design requires an understanding of the plants and processes of our native landscape, it need not exclude the artistic accomplishments of other design styles. As in past programs, this symposium will explore ecological design issues, but with an added emphasis on relevant aspects of some of the great world landscape traditions. Through an inclusive approach we can create designs that relate to our indigenous landscape yet attain a high level of artistic accomplishment.

Co-sponsored by:
New Directions in the American Landscape (NDAL)
The Connecticut College Arboretum
The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

Locations:
January 11th and 12th, 1995 - Villanova University, Villanova, PA
January 14th and 15th, 1995 - Connecticut College, New London, CT

N.J. ASLA C.E.U.'s available
"Natural Design as Landscape Art: Innovation with Roots in the Past"

DAY 1

Villanova University, Villanova, PA: Wednesday, January 11, 1995
Connecticut College, New London, CT: Saturday, January 14, 1995

8:15-9:00 Registration, continental breakfast, and welcome

9:00-10:00 **Art and Nature: The Landscapes of A.E. Bye**
A.E. BYE

Mr. Bye, one of the most admired landscape architects of our time, will illustrate his work and discuss his techniques for creating landscapes that reflect both art and nature.

---

**The Open Landscape**

The indigenous open landscape in all its variations - dry, wet, and alpine meadows, grasslands, and mixed woody/herbaceous old fields - can serve as a valuable model for the designer dealing with sunny sites. We'll examine the composition and aesthetic characteristics of the native open landscape, along with two landscape styles whose accomplished use of herbaceous perennials make them uniquely adaptable to the design of these sites.

10:00-11:00 "The English Perennial Garden: Adapting a Rich Tradition of Color and Texture to the American Landscape"
ELSA BAKALAR

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:15 "Composition of the Eastern Meadow: Basis for Design"
DR. ROBERT ZAREMBA

12:15-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:30 "The Alpine Garden Tradition and the Natural Alpine Meadow"
LEE M. RADEN

2:30-3:30 "The Residential Landscape: Blending Horticulture, Design and Ecology"
LARRY WEANER

---

3:30-3:45 Break

3:45-4:30 **Panel Discussion:**

"Natives and Exotics: What's All the Fuss About Anyway?"

What landscapes, if any, should be composed exclusively of native plants and what is the appropriate role of exotic plants in American landscape design? Legitimate differences of opinion exist but each designer must determine their own personal guidelines if they are to formulate a coherent and informed approach. This panel will explore these questions in an open forum with audience participation encouraged.

**Pennsylvania Panel:**

PAUL MEYER, Dir., Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania
EDGAR DAVID, Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture, Temple University
DR. ROBERT ZAREMBA, Dir. of Science Programs, Nature Conservancy of NY

**Connecticut Panel:**

MICHAEL SEGAN, ASLA, Richter, Segan, and Webb Inc., Avon CT
RUTH PARNALL, Landscape Architect, Conway, MA
DR. ROBERT ZAREMBA, Dir. of Science Programs, Nature Conservancy of NY
"Natural Design as Landscape Art: Innovation with Roots in the Past"

DAY 2

Villanova University, Villanovina, PA: Thursday, January 12, 1995

8:15-9:00 Registration and continental breakfast

The Wooded Landscape

In this group of lectures we will draw from the diverse worlds of horticulture, design and ecology. Approaches to the renovation and design of existing woods and the re-establishment of woodland landscapes on open sites will be covered. By combining the techniques of traditional woodland garden design, with a heightened awareness of the ecological composition and aesthetic patterns of our indigenous forest we can form an artistic yet natural basis for the creation of woodland landscapes.

9:00-10:00 "Winterthur: Traditional Woodland Garden at its Best"
LINDA GREWE EIRHART

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-12:15 "Composition of the Eastern Woodland: A Basis for Design"
DR. MARK McDONNELL

12:15-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:30 "Visual Patterns of the Forest: Designing the Woodland Landscape from an Aesthetic Perspective"
NEIL JORGENSEN, Ph.D.

2:30-3:15 "The Japanese Garden: Lessons for American Designers"
CLAIRE SAWYERS

Abstracting the essence of the natural landscape into designed gardens has been practiced in Japan for centuries at a level rarely approached by other landscape traditions. This presentation will explore these techniques and suggest how they can be applied to American naturalistic landscapes.

3:15-3:30 Break

3:30-4:30 "Bringing it All Together: Art and Nature Combined in the Designed Landscape"
PATRICK CHASSE

Mr. Chassé's educational and professional background in the fields of Landscape Architecture, Biology, and Environmental Education, his frequent trips to Japan, and his outstanding design work, as recognized in House and Garden, Down East Magazine, Architectural Digest and numerous other publications, make him uniquely qualified to illustrate the exciting possibilities of blending art, horticulture and ecology in the designed landscape.
ELSA BAKALAR is a garden designer, educator, and writer. Her gardens have been featured in horticultural books, magazines, and on television. She is author of A Garden of One’s Own.

ARTHUR EDWIN BYE has been one of the most influential landscape designers since the early 1950s, with projects including the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorial landscape renovations in Washington, D.C. He is author of Art into Landscape, Landscape into Art, and received the coveted ASLA medal in 1993.

PATRICK CHASSÉ, ASLA, is a garden designer and writer. He lectures at Harvard University, the Arnold Arboretum, and the New York Botanical Garden. He is author of Designing with Nature in Northern New England in “Plants and Gardens - Brooklyn Botanic Garden Record.”

LINDA GREWE EIRHART is Associate Curator, Landscape Division, Winterthur Museum and Garden where she has been since 1986. She previously instructed at Callaway Gardens, Pine Mt., GA.


DR. MARK MCDONNELL is Director, University of Connecticut, Bartlett Arboretum and an Associate Professor in the Univ. of CT Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. He is a plant ecologist with research interests in old-field succession, forest structure and dynamics, and landscape ecology.

LEE M. RADEN is past president of the American Rock Garden Society and founder of its Delaware Valley chapter. He has been gardening with alpine plants in Chester County, PA for 40 years.

CLAIRE SAWYERS is Director of the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College. She previously spent seven years at the Mt. Cuba Center for the Study of Piedmont Flora and has worked and lived in Japan.

LARRY WEANER is principal of Larry Weaner Landscape Design, developer of the “New Directions in the American Landscape” symposium series, and an instructor at the Morris Arboretum of the Univ. of PA. He also chairs the environmental committee of the Assoc. of Professional Landscape Designers.

DR. ROBERT ZAREMBA, has been the Director of Science Programs for the Nature Conservancy in NY since 1983. He has an MA and Ph.D. in Botany from the Univ. of MA, Amherst.

For more information call: PA (215) 247-5777 Ext. 156 or (215) 836-1051; CT (203) 439-2140 or (215) 836-1051

For hotel accommodations: PA: Howard Johnson Lodge, King of Prussia (610) 265-4500, Mention Symposium CT: Holiday Inn of New London (203) 442-0631, Mention Symposium

Maps will be sent with confirmation.

FEE PER PERSON: $218.00 Continental breakfast and lunch included
☐ Optional Dinner $28.00

Name(s) ____________________________
__________________________________
__________________________________
Company ___________________________
Address ____________________________
Amount Enclosed $________ Phone (_______)
Charge to: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Make checks payable and return registration forms to:
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19118

CT: The Connecticut College Arboretum
270 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320-4196

Registration fee will be refunded only when written notification is received or postmarked no later than 10 working days prior to date of event.

EXPIRATION DATE