

A PUBLICATION FROM THE APLD CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE DESIGN

*art in the
garden:*

GARDENS THROUGH
A PHOTOGRAPHER'S EYE

THIRTY YEARS OF GARDEN
EVOLUTION AND ARTISTRY

REIMAGINING WASTE:
URBANITE AS ART + FUNCTION



Association of
Professional
Landscape
Designers

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

WINTER 2024 | VOL. 6, NO 2 | NOVEMBER 2024

Our mission is to advance the profession of landscape design and to promote our members as qualified and dedicated professionals.



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California Landscape Design
MAGAZINE/NEWSLETTER

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CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE DESIGN

A PUBLICATION FROM THE
APLD CALIFORNIA CHAPTER



Association of
Professional
Landscape
Designers

California Chapter

Publication

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Laura Morton

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and the landscape, in turn,
enhances the art."*

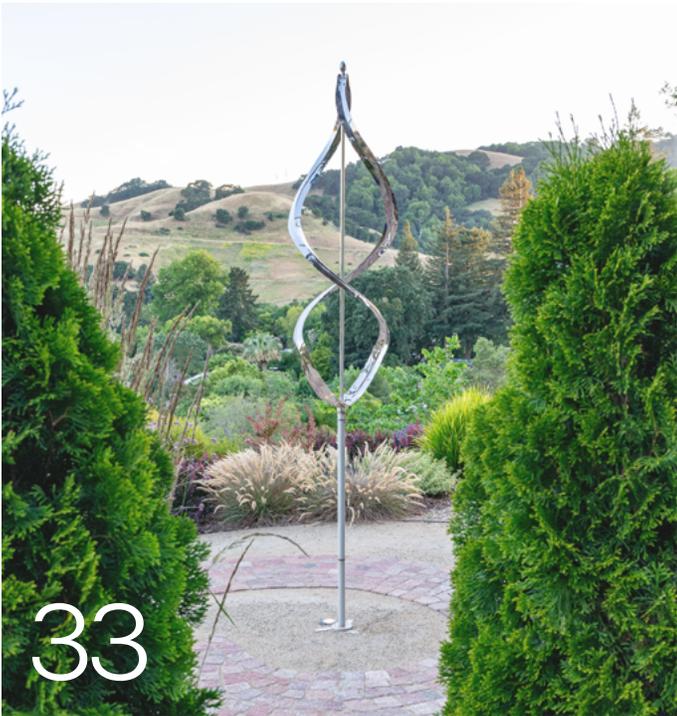
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A Letter from the California Chapter President

Martin G. Carrion van Rijn



Greetings,

May this message find you all well. The focus of this Winter 2024 issue of *APLD California Landscape Design* is "Art in the Garden"—a subject that is truly close to my heart. I believe that art in the garden brings a new dimension to outdoor spaces. It gives us and our clients a chance to express deeper values, add a touch of whimsy, provoke thought, and enhance natural beauty.

This message also marks my final communication as APLD CA Chapter President. I want to take this moment to thank each of you for the opportunity to serve as president and for your support over the past four years. Serving in this role has been an experience of tremendous personal and professional growth, and I am deeply grateful.

Holding any position on the board is not just a responsibility but a true membership benefit. The rewards of engaging with our organization in this way are abundant, and I encourage each of you to make the most of your APLD membership by participating and collaborating wherever possible.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the dedicated members of the APLD CA Board who have served alongside me. Having an exceptional team has been a privilege, and together we have achieved significant milestones for APLD CA. Reflecting on these past years, I believe much of our success stemmed from the continuity and commitment of our board members who retained their positions, allowing us to build on our shared efforts year after year.

Finally, I am pleased to welcome our incoming APLD CA Chapter President for 2025, Gün Ünsal. I have every confidence that our Chapter is in capable hands as it continues to thrive.



With all my gratitude,

Martin G. Carrion van Rijn

APLD California President

CONTRIBUTING THIS ISSUE



JUDE PARKINSON-MORGAN is a garden photographer based in the San Francisco Bay Area. She developed a passion for gardens while growing up in England, inspired by watching her father tend to a classic English garden filled with roses, fruit trees, and a thriving vegetable patch. With formal training in both photography and garden design, she brings a unique perspective to capturing gardens, combining a keen eye, technical expertise, and an understanding of design principles. Jude aims to showcase each garden's beauty, curating photos that reflect its character and atmosphere. When not photographing, she can often be found walking East Bay trails, always seeking the magic of light in the landscape.

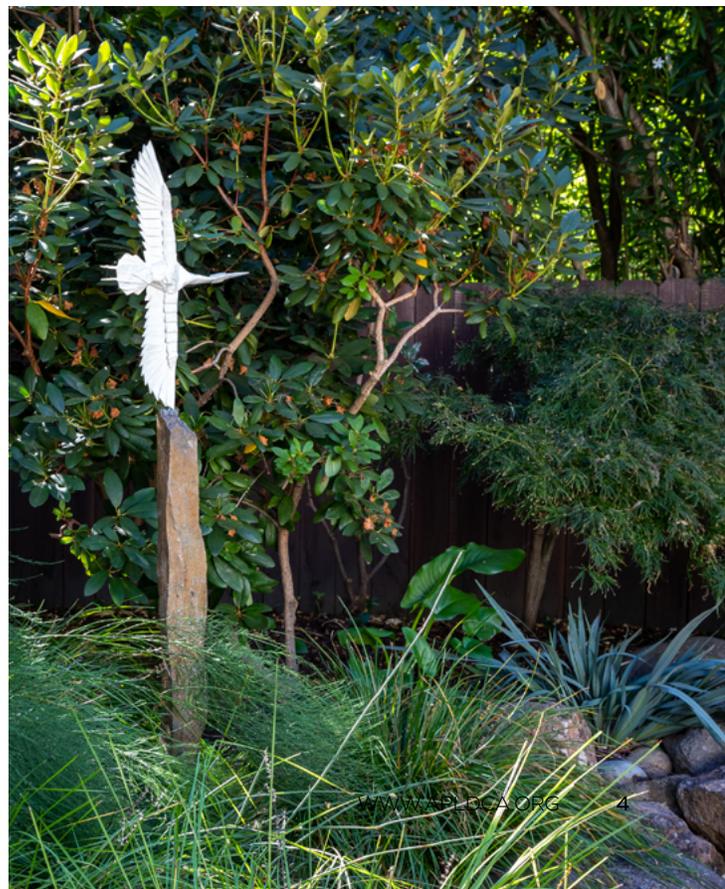


LAURA MORTON is an APLD Fellow, and co-founder of the APLD Greater LA District in 2009, serving as our Chapter President in 2012. She remains active in the horticultural community, advocating for sustainable, wildlife-friendly, and ocean-conscious gardening practices. She is also a member of the Mediterranean Garden Society and the California Garden & Landscape Historical Society and has lectured at the LA Garden Show, Gardens of the Mind seminar, and more. Her formal training in plants and landscape design began in 1995 with courses in Horticulture and Landscape Architecture at UCLA. Working from her West Hollywood studio as a horticultural consultant and landscape designer, Laura creates award-winning landscapes and cohesive outdoor spaces for a diverse range of residential clients.



SHAWN MAESTRETTI is a designer, licensed landscape architect and contractor, certified arborist, permaculture designer, and advocate for regenerative landscapes. Known as an "oracle and alchemist" in his field, Shawn combines his deep expertise with a collaborative vision, earning a reputation as a "possibilitarian." He is a member of the Climate Reality Leadership Corps, a Kiss the Ground Soil Advocate, and an environmental activist. Shawn frequently presents on nature's intelligence and the climate crisis through his series Regenerative Landscapes and the Climate Crisis, Reimagining Landscape and Lifestyle, and Co-creating as Interbeings. His mission is rooted in reconnecting with the natural world, protecting biodiversity, and fostering sustainable practices that protect water and nurture ecosystems.

Cover photo by Jude Parkinson-Morgan



NEWS & UPDATES

Photo Credit: Andrea Doonan Horticulture and Design



*A word from APLD California's President-Elect: **Gün Ünsal***

“ I'd like to begin by acknowledging Martin's years of dedicated service and the lasting impact he has made on the APLD California Chapter. I am truly honored to follow in his footsteps. — As we look ahead to the new year, my goal is to work alongside our members and board to prioritize community, education, and advocacy. I encourage everyone to consider joining us in shaping the future of our chapter and profession—whether through board involvement, volunteering, or sharing ideas.

Gün is the Owner and Principal Designer of Blue Hibiscus and has been crafting sustainable landscapes since 2014. Formerly for 15 years, she excels in site analysis, CAD design, and 3D simulations for residential projects with a focus on permeable surfaces, climate-appropriate plants, and water-saving technologies. She is the APLD Bay Area District, Vice President of APLD California, a ReScape Quality Professional, and a QWEL-certified landscape designer. Gün brings a wealth of expertise and passion to the profession and environmentally-sound practices in landscape design.

Save the Date

APLD International Landscape Design Conference 2025

Join us for the APLD International Landscape Design Conference from **April 24 - 28, 2025**, in San Diego, California. Experience the vibrance San Diego while connecting with landscape designers from across the globe. The conference will feature private tours of inspiring gardens, informative talks, and countless networking opportunities. Don't miss this chance to engage with industry leaders and enhance your professional skills. Stay tuned for more details by making sure you are subscribed to [our events newsletter](#).

New Issue of Design Online

The November issue of APLD's *Design Online* brings you a recap of the 2024 International Landscape Design Conference in Charleston. Explore highlights from inspiring garden tours, insights into the design community's latest award-winning projects, and reflections on impactful landscape practices. Plus, discover member accomplishments, upcoming events, and industry news. [Read it here.](#)



together, we can amplify our mission to promote and support landscape design professionals across California. — I look forward to building on the strong foundation Martin and past leaders have established, and I'm excited for what we can achieve together.

Warm regards,
Emin Ünsal
APLD CA Chapter President-Elect

at Gardens, where she has worked as a computer engineer for several years. Her designs focus on sustainable techniques. As president of the California Chapter, she has worked as a Certified Professional, and she continues to do her work, championing

Now Accepting Submissions



The 2025 APLD International Landscape Design Awards Program is open for entries! Showcase your exceptional projects and gain industry recognition. Submit by January 31, 2025. [Visit our website](#) for more details and submission requirements.



WELCOME ALL

Professionals

Landscape Designers who engage in the practice of landscape design and have more than 3 years of professional landscape design experience.

LARA SWEENEY

Lara Morabito Gardens
Santa Barbara, CA

KATIE GRANDY

Colorfield Garden Design
Redwood City, CA

RANDY HENDRICKSON

Evolve Lodging
Westlake Village, CA

CHRIS NGUYEN

Four Seasons Landscape
Poway, CA

PETRA LONGLEY

Petra MJ Designs
Sonoma, CA

LAURA SCHAUB

Ranch Handy Design
Orangevale, CA

CHARLOTTE BJORLIN

RAD Ventures
Los Angeles, CA

SHELLENE MUELLER

Designs by Shellene /
Rustica Garden Works
Escondido, CA

NICHOLAS THAYER

Forbes Land Design
Ukiah, CA

DANA DAVIDSEN

Day Landscape Studio
Redding, CA

DAVID O'NEAL

3D Designs by David
Clovis, CA

LINDA MCKENDRY

Linda McKendry Garden
Design
Agoura Hilla, CA

LAUREN ANTHONY

Wildscape Designs
Greenbrae, CA

We're thrilled to welcome the latest additions to the APLD California Chapter, representing diverse cities and bringing fresh perspectives to our designer community. Members who joined after June will be listed on the next issue. Visit our website for the most up to date **list of members**.

Emerging Professionals

Individuals who have been practicing landscape design for one to three years and are starting a career in landscape design.

MARY KLEVA
Besanti Natives
Burbank, CA

LEELOO GILET
Studio Amalurra
San Diego, CA

JEAN KOCH
Verge Landscapes
Oakland, CA

GARRETT WANKEL
Dry by Design
Walnut Creek, CA

JULIA PARKER
Soulful Spaces
San Diego, CA

ADRIAN ANGI
Uproot Design
San Marcos, CA

NEW MEMBERS

VIRGINIA FALL
Drab to Fab
San Diego, CA

ANITA NAIK
My Space Landscape
Escondido, CA

HOWARD HERRON
Litchfield Management
Simi Valley, CA

DANI EVANS
Deedle Art
Tulare, CA

Enthusiasts

Individuals practicing in related or associated fields.

CALVIN SCOTT
Tustin, CA

Students

Individuals actively enrolled, on a full or part-time basis, in a Landscape Design, Landscape Architecture or Horticulture program.

KIMBERLY MCCOLLISTER
San Diego, CA

KIMBERLY USSERY
Imperial Beach, CA

ERIN GUIFFRIDA
San Diego, CA

FARNAZ TASBIHGOO
Oakland, CA

RACHEL FAY
San Francisco, CA

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Garrett Wankel
EMERGING PROFESSIONAL,
WALNUT CREEK, CA
[DRY BY DESIGN LLC](#)

How do you create multi-sensory artistic experiences in your garden designs?

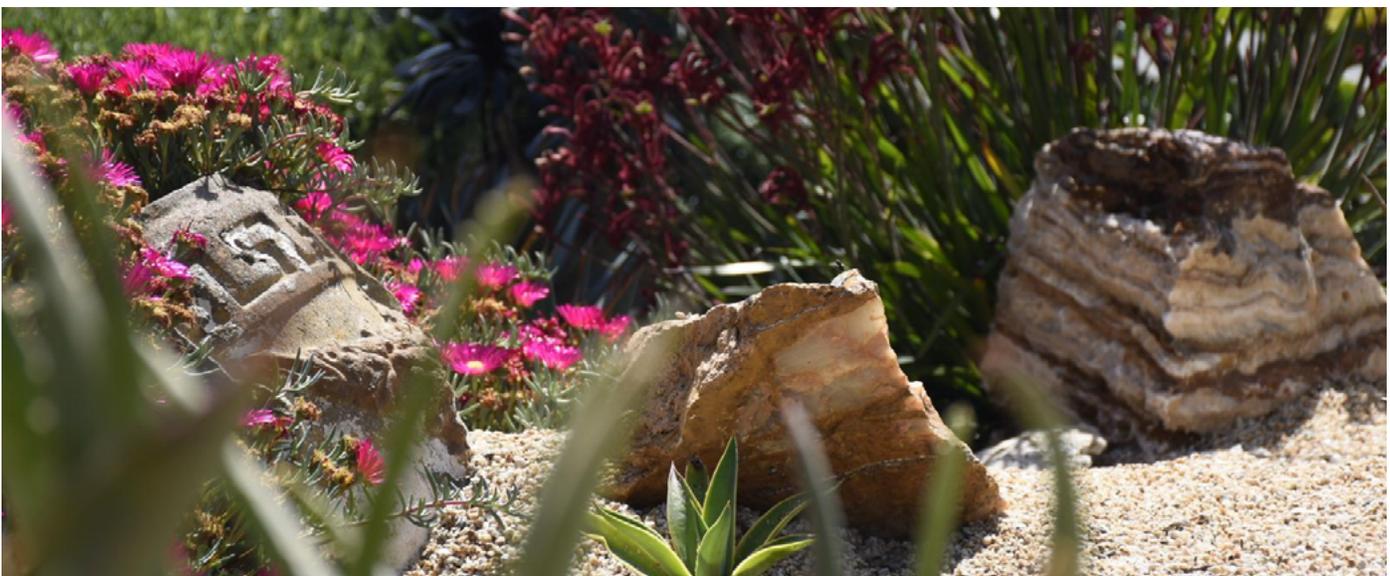
Transforming the drama of the desert into a warm home garden is an art. I engage all senses in my designs, from the textures of leaves to the brilliance of flowers. Each space prioritizes safety for all inhabitants—flora, fauna, and humans alike. I consider how fragrant blooms interact with the wind, and I create a harmonious balance of edgy and soft textures. Every garden is a journey, blending vibrant visuals with tranquil scenes and crafting a story that invites repeat visits with an ever-evolving experience.

What's your current favorite landscape design style?

Dry gardens are my favorite; the adaptations that arid landscape dwellers exhibit are inspiring to me. The design discipline that places seasonal rainfall as the prevailing constraint is my preferred method of designing. Selecting genera that will thrive with the average rainfall or

less is a responsibility California designers like myself are embracing, and maximizing usage of the precipitation that falls on the property is also an exciting challenge. I approach this work as a steward of the land, fully aware of the profound positive impact I can make.

Photo by Garrett Wankel



How do you balance client preferences with your artistic vision?

Every project is a process of continuous discovery. Often, my clients are newcomers to California native plants, but they are always eager to learn along the way. Likewise, by working to understand my clients' sources of joy and inspiration, I can adapt the physical landscape to instill familiar comforts and revitalize the spirit in new ways.

How do you create multi-sensory artistic experiences in your garden designs?

As a California native plant landscape designer, I strive to connect the wondrous beauty of the Golden State to everyday life. Just by stepping outside, a vibrant salvia or fragrant sagebrush invites you into the present moment. My work is about creating dynamic sensory experiences throughout the year, not only through plants and elemental features, but also with the help of birds, butterflies, and other friendly wildlife that are drawn to these spaces.



Mary Kleva
EMERGING PROFESSIONAL MEMBER,
LOS ANGELES, CA

BESANTI NATIVES



Explore Your Potential with APLD California

APLD California isn't just about certification; it's about building connections that inspire and opportunities that empower. From seasoned experts to emerging talents, our members thrive together. Discover how APLD can enrich your professional life at apldca.org/membership.

FEATURED GARDEN

BAY AREA DISTRICT



ALL PHOTOGRAPHS © JUDE PARKINSON-MORGAN

THIS LANDSCAPE PROJECT IS A **2023 APLD SILVER AWARD WINNER** IN THE RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY OVER \$100,000.

Designed by Reka Foss, this garden successfully blends modern architectural form with the natural beauty of a riparian oak woodland. Located in Contra Costa County, the landscape sits between the steeply eroding banks of Las Trampas Creek and an understated mid-century ranch house.

The project's focus was on creating a sustainable, water-conscious garden that enhances the clients' connection to the natural

environment while addressing specific site challenges.

Reka's clients had three clear priorities: maintain a large, functional open space for play and entertaining, replace the existing water-hungry lawn with climate-appropriate plantings, and solve ongoing drainage issues.

The backyard had a traditional sod lawn, which was not only unsuited for the site's severe drought conditions but also contributed to significant creek erosion, as runoff from the lawn was historically piped into the creek.

Reka addressed these issues through a thoughtful balance of "form and flow".

The existing hardscape and lawn were

DESIGNER: Reka Foss
COMPANY: [Foss Garden Design](#)



About the Project

LOCATION: Lafayette, CA

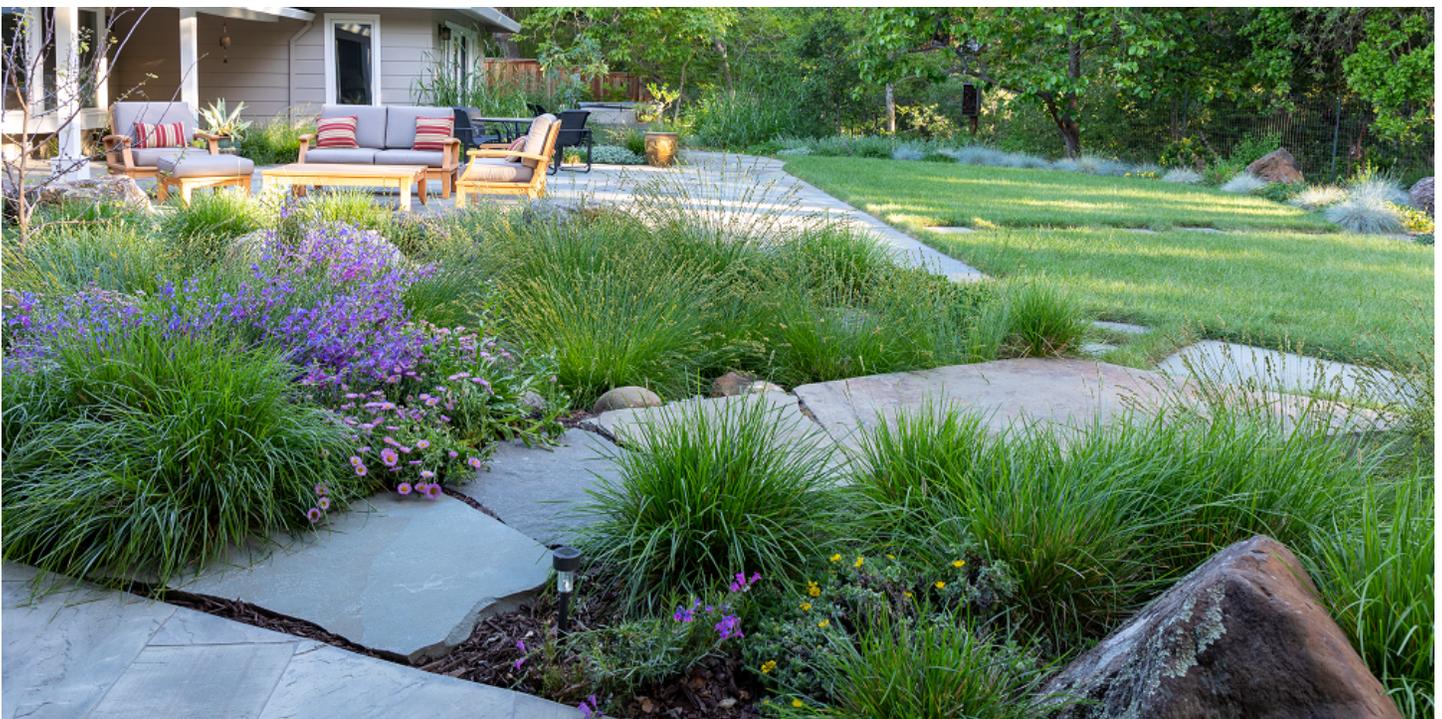
ZONE: 9B

AREAS: Front and backyard

BUDGET: Over \$100,000

CONSTRAINTS: The site sits between steeply eroding creek banks and a mid-century ranch house, creating a challenging mix of shaded oak woodlands and sunny open spaces. The clay soil, coupled with drought conditions, demanded innovative drainage solutions to prevent further erosion.

NOTABLE FEATURES: A rain garden with ornamental boulders and a bubbling water feature collects roof stormwater via a rain chain, infiltrating and cleaning it before it reaches the creek. The winding path of irregular sand-set flagstone creates a flowing counterpoint to the formal geometry of the rectilinear ashlar pattern paving.





removed, and new stone paving, in a rectilinear ashlar pattern, was introduced. This formal structure was softened by flowing paths of irregular flagstone, which lead to more intimate garden spaces.

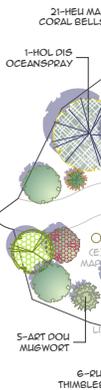
A central rain garden now captures roof stormwater and allows it to percolate back into the ground, mitigating creek erosion and supporting habitat regeneration. Ornamental boulders, a bubbling water feature, and native plantings such as Kurapia and Native Bent Grass provide texture and visual interest while conserving water.

The overall plant palette embraces the site's Mediterranean climate. California natives were chosen for their ability to thrive in the sun and shady microclimates, ensuring year-round interest and beauty with substantially less irrigation. More than just reducing water consumption, the new plant material also support pollinators, with vibrant

perennials attracting bees, butterflies, and birds.

The new landscape successfully navigates the site's topographical challenges and highlights the important, interconnected flow between man-made structures and the surrounding oak woodland. Through her design, Reka was able to redefine the aesthetic and functional qualities of the landscape as well as foster a deeper connection to the land for her clients.

*Landscape plan courtesy of Reka Foss of **Foss Garden Design**. All photos are copyrighted by **Jude Parkinson-Morgan**.*



A photograph of a garden path. The path is paved with reddish-brown tiles and leads through a lush garden. On the left, there are large yellow and orange flowers in the foreground, and a green gate is visible in the background. On the right, there are tall, spiky plants with red and orange flowers. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

the AMANI *garden*

*A dynamic interplay of form,
color, and texture invites visitors
to journey deeper into this
garden's carefully crafted layers.*

DESIGNER: Joel Berlin
COMPANY: [AnandaScapes LLC](#)

About the Project

YEAR COMPLETED: 2019
BUDGET: Over \$100,000
ZONE: 10B
LOCATION: La Jolla, CA



CONSTRAINTS: A large, shared cistern at the property's corner, could not be altered or hidden with traditional construction. Instead, Joel had to work creatively to integrate it into the garden's design by covering it with a mosaic fountain.

NOTABLE FEATURES: Handmade mosaic tables crafted by the homeowner, vibrant South African plantings, and terracotta features unite to create an inspired landscape.



THIS LANDSCAPE PROJECT IS A **2023 APLD SILVER AWARD WINNER** IN THE RESIDENTIAL CATEGORY OVER \$100,000.

Nestled within the coastal charm of La Jolla, the Amani Garden is a story of the power of intentional design and the transformation from a basic lawn and water-intensive vegetation, to a layered garden that reflects thoughtful,

sustainable landscape design, embracing both form and function. This garden exemplifies how a well-executed design can significantly enhance the beauty, functionality, and environmental responsibility of a property. Designed by Joel Berlin of AnandaScapes, the garden surrounds a 1930s Spanish Revival bungalow. It reflects the architectural integrity of the home while incorporating plants from the homeowners' native South Africa. Berlin's vision was to create a



Above: Leucospermum, Leucadendron, and other plants from the homeowners' native South Africa feature prominently in this colorful, water-wise garden.

sanctuary of interconnected outdoor rooms, each offering intimate vignettes for relaxation and entertaining.

The design process began in April 2019, coinciding with the completion of the home's renovation. The Friedleins, longtime residents of California, desired a garden that mirrored the aesthetic and cultural heritage of their Spanish Colonial home while embracing the region's Mediterranean climate. To achieve this, Berlin incorporated a vibrant palette of drought-resistant plants, including *Aloe bainesii*, *Leucospermum*, *Leucadendron*, and *Protea*. These selections are a nod to the couple's South African roots and also happen to thrive in USDA Zone 10b, providing year-round color and texture.

At the heart of the Amani Garden is its

artistry. The garden is divided into five distinct outdoor "rooms," each with its own unique character. Handmade clay tiles, custom cushions, and mosaic tables—crafted by homeowner Annette Friedlein, a talented multimedia artist—add layers of personal expression and texture to the space. These bespoke details infuse the garden with a sense of playfulness and intimacy, making it a true extension of the home's interior.

A front courtyard, enclosed by a low stucco wall, showcases *Leucospermum* and *Leucadendron* varieties alongside *Grevillea lanigera* and *Aeonium arborescens*. Here, Berlin's thoughtful plant placement creates a dramatic display of form and color, punctuated by structural elements like a fire pit, tiled benches, and a tiered Spanish fountain.

*handcrafted
mosaic tables,
vibrant cushions,
and custom
tilework bring an
artful, personal
touch to every
outdoor room.*





Left: A bespoke mosaic fountain cleverly disguises a cistern which could not be removed.

Right: A series of arched wall grill tiles create an intricate, sculptural feature along the garden wall.

The garden feels vibrant yet restrained, maintaining privacy while offering pockets of openness.

Incorporating functional elements with an artistic twist was key to this project's success. A large cistern, shared by neighboring properties, posed a significant design challenge, yet Berlin cleverly disguised it with a striking mosaic fountain. Similarly, paths and seating areas are framed by layers of lush, pollinator-friendly plants, ensuring that every corner of the garden serves a purpose while contributing to its visual harmony.

The Amani Garden at Bonair Street is a reflection of the Friedleins' passion for art

and nature. Through thoughtful design and careful curation, Berlin transformed their outdoor space into a living work of art, where the beauty of climate-appropriate plants and custom-made pieces converge in perfect harmony.

CONTENT COURTESY
OF **JOEL BERLIN/ANANDASCAPES LLC.**

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JANET BARK PHOTOGRAPHY



Left: The recurring use of terracotta elements—coping, wall features, and even terracotta colored potting vessels—unites the landscape with the home's Spanish Revival architecture, grounding the design in its historical context.



the gates' pale blue hue draws attention to entry points and complements earthy tones used throughout the landscape.

*Laura Mon
tending to her*

GARDEN

*Writt
Laura L*



*Morton shares her 30-year journey designing, editing, and
garden, which serves as both a laboratory and retreat.*

THE GARDEN MAKER

Written by
Morton





We acquired Ozeta House in 1994, a 1921 earthquake prototype structure presumed to have been designed by modernist architect Irving Gill. The home, built from formed concrete, was an intriguing canvas that immediately drew me in. Its simple cubic geometry, reminiscent of southern Mediterranean architecture from places like Morocco and Greece, provided a perfect setting to begin what would become a decades-long design project. At that time, my passion for landscape design was just blossoming as I began formal studies in horticultural

and landscape architecture at UCLA. This garden became both my experimental playground and classroom, a place where I could test design theory, build a dream garden, and explore the relationship between form and plant life.

Over the years, this garden has continued to serve me as a laboratory—a place for experimenting with plant combinations and practicing observation and discovery. Watching how different design elements interact over time has taught me invaluable lessons, lessons that have become fundamental tools in my work as a professional designer.

The journey of tending to and transforming the garden has been one of constant learning. Every season brings new challenges and opportunities. I've reconceived areas, added

Left: The chalky white walls and vibrant blues create a serene yet lively setting for outdoor gatherings. **Bottom:** Moroccan-inspired tiles are a nod to the Southern Mediterranean influences that shaped the architecture of Ozeta House.



an entertaining pavilion, and made significant planting adjustments over time. Today, the garden at Ozeta House feels like a living entity that I know intimately. It's an environment that both reflects and marks the passage of time in ways I could never have imagined. More than that, it has become my constant guide, offering insights into patience, creativity, and the delicate balance between order and wildness.

FINDING ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

Adding artistic elements into a landscape is an invitation to personalize a space. These additions create visual cues that guide visitors, encouraging deeper exploration and making the space feel fun and relatable. Gardens, after all, are crafted environments; they are meant to evoke nature but serve as transitional spaces for the spirit.

These elements reflect my personality, tastes, travels, and memories. Before officially becoming a landscape designer, I was drawn to creating original things—fashion, furniture, jewelry, and photography. I loved working with different materials and finding ways to bring them together in new and interesting combinations. My garden has become an extension of this creative process. I am always seeking subtle relationships between materials and plants and observing how they evolve together over time.

I particularly enjoy when art in the garden connects to craftsmanship, where you can feel the human ges-

ture. It's also important to me that there's an element of ephemerality, something to discover and pause over that may reveal itself only at certain times, like ephemeral bulbs, a bloom cycle, or a shift in leaf color. This dynamic connection keeps the garden engaging without overwhelming the senses.

Incorporating whimsical details serves both as structural elements and as focal points, reminding me of the joy and wonder that gardens





Top: A wrought iron dragonfly sculpture, made by Laura, hovers above a lush mix of succulents and contrasting, dark foliage.

Bottom: This intimate, shaded nook in the east garden, where layers of texture and light create a tranquil, almost mystical atmosphere.



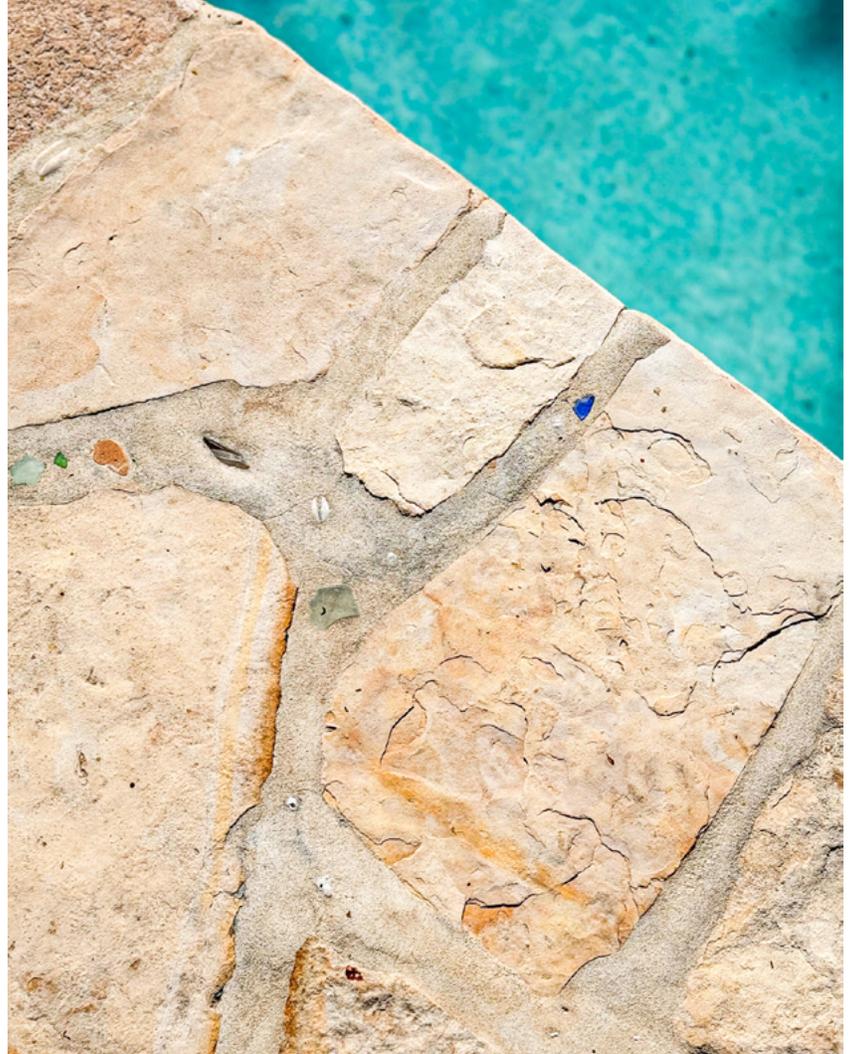
can spark in the imagination. One example is the jeweled dragonflies I crafted early in my career. Originally designed for a reflecting pond installation in 2001, these powder-coated dragonflies with iridescent beaded wings play with light and reflection. I now keep a couple of them in my garden, moving them occasionally to enhance different areas and add a sense of movement.

CRAFTING UNIQUE ELEMENTS

One of the most significant transformations at Ozeta House was replacing the original 1970s red brick pool deck. While searching for an alternative, I found creamy white flagstone reminiscent of rocks on a windswept Greek island. Its soft, worn surface felt timeless, suiting



Current page: The outdoor
like a rooftop lined with vinyl
along the dining table. **Right:**
hand-plac



both the house's architecture and the Mediterranean aesthetic I envisioned.

For the grout, I took a more playful approach. My family and I had collected sea glass and shells from various beach walks, and I decided to integrate these into the stonework. Working alongside the masons, I began to "jewel the grout," embedding the glass and shells in a way that felt both intentional and accidental. I wanted it to feel as though we were installing this on a distant island, where treasures from the sea naturally found their way into the stone. It's especially delightful to see children notice these details first, reminding me of the joy in discovery. Over time, some shells have broken, but their imprints remain, becoming part of the garden's evolving story.

To address drainage needs, I later removed low sections of the deck and filled the gaps with turquoise pebbles set on edge. This modification added another layer of color and texture, blending function with beauty.

dining area at dusk, with bespoke design details
age insulators and whitewashed carved paneling
A close-up of the poolside stonework, featuring
ed sea glass and shells embedded into the grout.

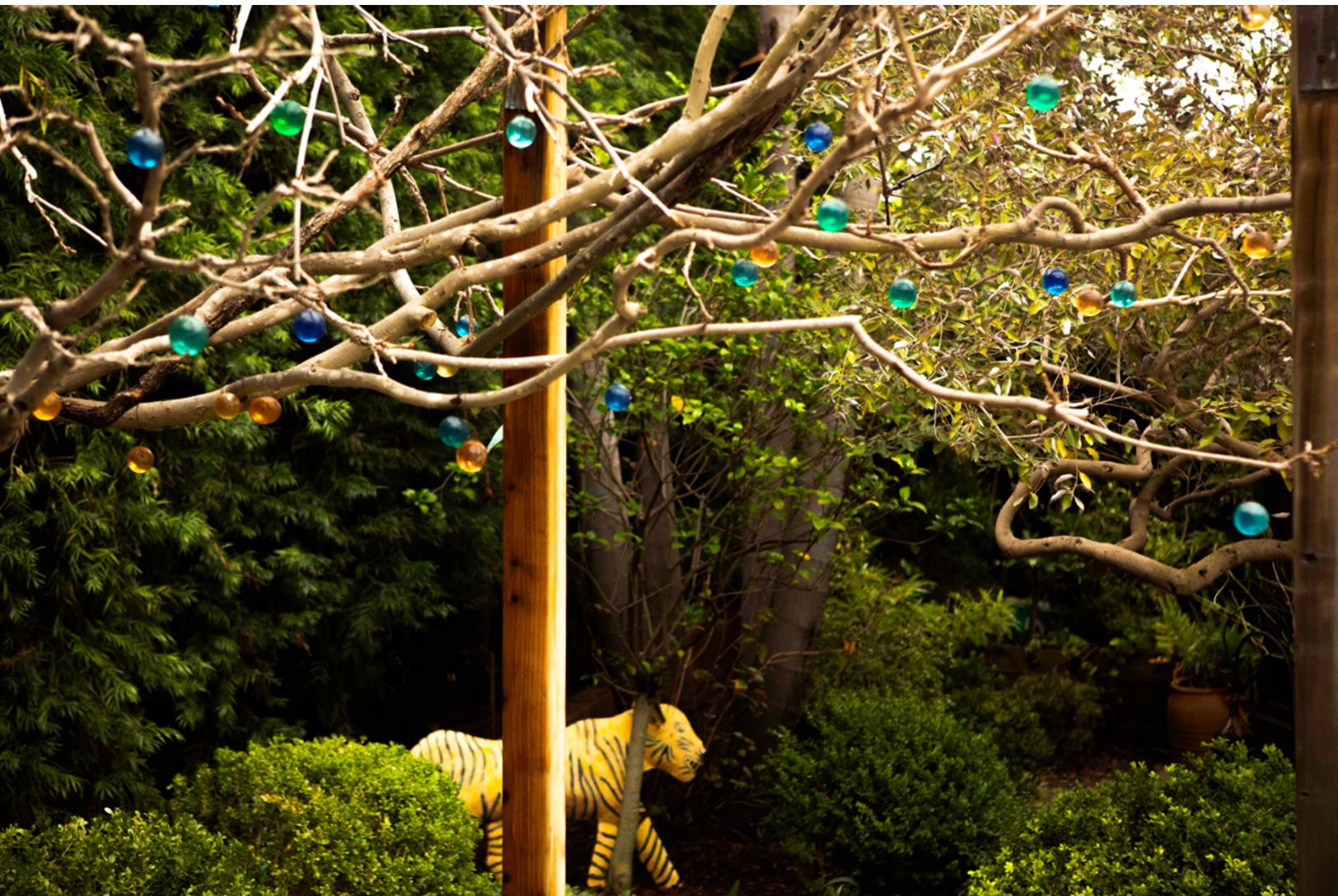
LIVING SCULPTURES

Creating topiary and espalier has also been a meaningful aspect of this garden. Inspired by my studies with Jan Smithen at the Los Angeles Arboretum, I became fascinated with shaping plants into living sculptures. Topiary is a long-term commitment; it requires patience and a deep understanding of plant growth patterns. I've experimented with many species, pruning and shaping them into forms that sometimes evolve, re-wild, and are then refined again.

One of my proudest achievements is the *Wisteria sinensis* 'Rosea', which I have lovingly shaped over 27 years. Trained into a spiraling double helix, it forms a doorway between the

citrus orchard and the shade garden. Throughout the seasons, it offers different experiences—in spring, cascading racemes fill the air with fragrance; by summer, it is joined by clusters of *Ampelopsis* berries in indigo, seafoam, and magenta, which the birds adore. In winter, stripped bare, it reveals clusters of acrylic balls that glow like colorful bubbles in the light, drawing attention to the vine's sinewy form.

Challenges have been part of the process as well. A few years ago, the wisteria's support structure began to collapse, requiring careful re-training of the vines. This task was humbling, reminding me that a garden is never truly finished. It exists in the moment, and sometimes it demands a willingness to start anew.





Opposite Page: A tiger statue peeks from beneath the bare Wisteria, with colorful glass orbs hanging from its vines. **Top:** Shaped and nurtured for 27 years, a beautifully trained *Wisteria sinensis* 'Rosea' in full bloom, cascading along the wooden trellis. **Bottom:** *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata* (Porcelain Berry Vine) with its striking multicolored berries that echo the colors and forms of its surroundings.

LEARNING AND ADAPTING THROUGH TIME

In the early years at Ozeta House, I found myself navigating the complexities of landscape building, often by trial and error. Those initial challenges accelerated my learning and grounded me in the essentials of creating a thriving garden.

I've learned that gardening is a blend of planning and experience. In my garden, I have the freedom to dream and test ideas against my education and instincts. Not everything has been successful, but having a space for experimentation has built my confidence and taught me invaluable lessons—succession planting, pest management, and plant resilience, to name a few.

However, editing the garden is an ongoing challenge. As it grows, its scale changes, and sometimes the original vision becomes obscured. As a natural collector, I find that “too much” can happen easily. I periodically have to put on my designer hat and give myself a consult, editing with a disciplined hand. This struggle, though challenging, is essential. Good design and thoughtful editing contribute to a harmonious space that feels full yet not overwhelming.





*"I want to see the
the lizards dart
foliage, and feel a
at the beau*

Above: A vintage metal watering can placed beside a beautifully arranged stone path with blue pebbles filling the joints. **Bottom:** The entertaining pavilion with natural gas fire pit. **Right:** Bright blue, concrete jays perched over the tea garden towers.

A GARDEN THAT CONTINUES TO TEACH

Thirty years in, the garden at Ozeta House feels like an extension of me. I've spent decades observing its rhythms, learning its needs, and adapting my design to match the changes that time and nature bring. It's more than just a garden—it's a space that has taught me patience, humility, and the value of persistence. Every time I walk through it, I'm reminded of the balance between control and letting go. In the end, the garden has its own way of teaching me what it needs, and that relationship has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my career.

One of the greatest joys I find in the garden is its ability to stir the senses and evoke emotion. When I walk through the garden, I want to feel distracted, intrigued, and alive.



*birds, the insects,
ing through the
a sense of wonder
ty of it all."*



I want to see the birds, the insects, the lizards darting through the foliage, and feel a sense of wonder at the beauty of it all. Gardens are living spaces, and they require time and thoughtfulness to truly flourish. Through trial and error, patience, and constant observation, I've learned to embrace the garden's imperfections, knowing that they are part of its—and my—journey.

Laura is currently stewarding a growing number of her garden projects—feeling grateful to be trusted to adjust the designs over time.

LAURAMORTONDESIGN.COM

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS © JEFF DUNAS & ROSS WHITAKER 2024



a shift in
perspective



Words by Lorena Guy & Jude Parkinson-Morgan

Photographs by Jude Parkinson-Morgan

Photographer Jude Parkinson-Morgan reflects on the delicate interplay between design intention, artistic expression, and the photographic eye in contemporary gardens.

When Nina Mullen's *Skyline Meadow Farm* featured in our Summer/Fall issue, it wasn't just the stunning landscape that caught my attention—it was the way each photograph seemed to be captured at the perfect time through carefully composed frames. The photographer behind those images was Jude Parkinson-Morgan, whose work, as I would soon discover, has been documenting the evolution of Bay Area landscape design for many years.

Jude's photographs have become a familiar presence in our publication, capturing the work of countless APLD designers with an eye that understands both the technical principles of landscape design and the artistry of photography. Her background in landscape design from Merritt College gives her a unique perspective—she sees gardens not just as subjects to photograph, but as carefully crafted spaces in which every element has intention.

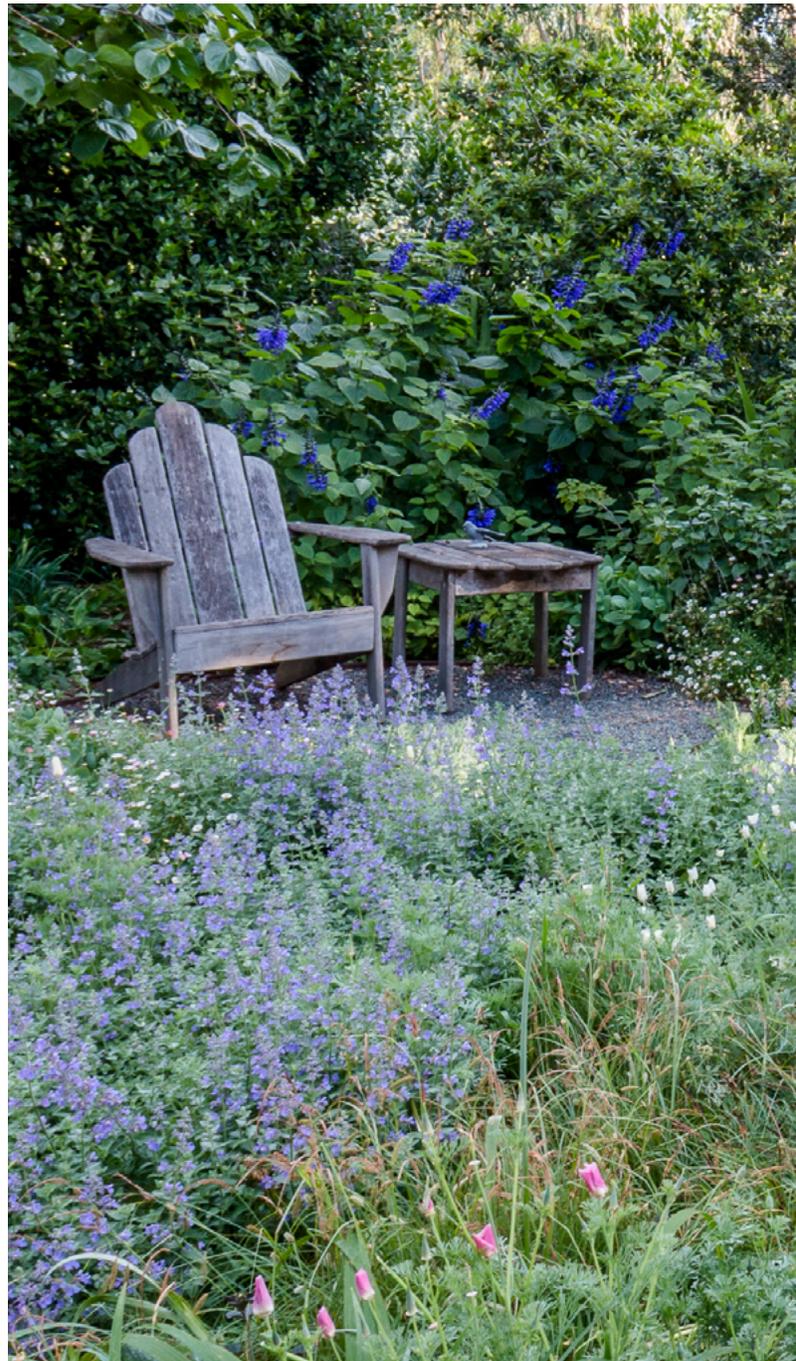
As we prepared for this Winter issue exploring "Art in the Garden," it seemed natural to turn the lens, so to speak, toward a professional who influences how we view art in landscape design through her photography. Despite a packed schedule of international travel and family visits, Jude graciously agreed to share her insights, drawing from her extensive portfolio to illustrate how art, design, and photography intersect in the garden.

Shared with us is a collection of photos from Jude, taken over the years, each highlighting memorable installations and thoughtful artistry in outdoor spaces. She sent notes along with the images, which guided my questions and uncovered stories behind each distinct landscape. With an extensive portfolio and years of collaboration with APLD designers, Jude's insights blend technical expertise with an artistic sensibility.

In the following interview, which has been lightly edited for clarity and continuity, she offers us this unique perspective.

Lorena Guy – *Throughout your career, you've captured a wide array of artistic elements in gardens. How has your perception of "art in the garden" evolved over time, and how do you think this evolution reflects broader trends in landscape design?*

Jude Parkinson-Morgan – When we think of art in the garden historically, we perhaps think of classical sculptures set in formal, symmetrical large gardens with linear paths and clipped box hedges. The



nature of art in the garden has changed as landscapes have scaled down and become more intimate. Think of the concept of “rooms” in the English gardens at Hidcote and Sissinghurst. As travel became cheaper, art became more accessible to people, which influenced the inclusion of art in personal gardens. Now, I think this has evolved into more contemporary uses of art in unexpected



An inviting garden scene with a stone birdbath and lush, layered plantings, including California poppies, irises, and delicate grasses.

ways. We see things like kinetic sculptures, recycled or repurposed materials, and site-specific installations like metal panels or glass sculptures that interact with natural elements such as wind and light. People don't have to visit a grand public garden to view art—they can create their own art experience within their own garden space.

LG – *In the Oakland Hills garden, there's an interesting juxtaposition between Japanese stone lamps and horse head sculptures. How do you approach photographing gardens that blend diverse cultural influences or unexpected artistic elements?*

JPM – I think it's a question of making sure there is harmony and balance when presenting



Above: Origami-inspired bird sculpture by Robert Lang, perched on a stone, and surrounded by verdant grasses and shrubs, adding a sense of movement to the garden.

Right: A juxtaposition of Eastern and Western art forms: a Japanese stone lantern and horse head sculpture, harmoniously placed to create balance and intrigue.

both elements. The owner of the Oakland garden had collected many pieces of art over the years, including more recent sculptures by local artist Mavis McClure. Designer Paul Cannon worked closely with Linda, the owner, to place both the antique Japanese-style lanterns and the horse head sculptures on the slope where they could be enjoyed from various angles—by Linda from her kitchen and by visitors to the garden. It was a touch of design harmony that the curve of the lantern echoed the curve of the horse's neck. In photographing these artworks, I found the contrast between the stone lamps and horse heads intriguing. I was careful to choose angles and compositions that showcased both elements simultaneously, aiming to capture

the unique blend of cultural and artistic influences. The skill of the designer is in making sure the plants provide cohesiveness to the background while also playing with the placement of artistic elements that invite contemplation and perhaps even discussion.

LG – *The repurposing of materials seems to be a recurring theme in several gardens you've photographed, such as the stone slabs in Los Altos or the Cambodian metal panel in Menlo Park. How do you see this trend of integrating travel mementos or repurposed elements influencing the concept of art in modern landscape design?*





Designer Bonnie Brock reused slabs taken apart from a fountain and turned them on their end, creating a monument-like focal point in the garden.





JPM – I think many APLD designers are now striving to design landscapes and gardens that are more ecologically or environmentally sound. It’s become an essential part of their design ethos and their clients (particularly millennials) are asking for this. It’s a given. When I first started photographing gardens professionally, quite a few years ago, designers had started to use broken concrete “urbanite” to create patios or walls. Now, there is a whole movement to not only use locally sourced materials but to keep everything on-site and reuse as much as possible. For instance, in the Los Altos garden, designer

Bonnie Brock pulled everything apart from a massive fountain that had been located in the back garden. She used the fountain stones throughout the design. Some of the larger slabs were turned on their ends and became a stunning focal point, transforming the stones into standalone sculptures. This repurposing trend is also reflected in Menlo Park, where the heavy metal panel brought back from Cambodia was set into the ground, creating a striking art piece near the patio. Both examples highlight how repurposed elements can serve as functional design features as well as meaningful works of art in the landscape.

Left: An intricate metal panel brought from Cambodia, adding a cultural and artistic focal point in the Menlo Park garden. **Below:** A clay face sculpture nestled within contrasting shrubs, giving a sense of earthy whimsy and character.





Left: A tall, kinetic sculpture that twists gently in the breeze, set against a picturesque hillside. **Below:** Rusty metal fish sculptures swimming through a bed of grasses, evoking the playful energy of movement in the landscape.

LG – *You've worked with numerous landscape designers over the years. Can you discuss how the collaboration between designers, artists, and photographers contributes to the overall artistic vision of a garden?*

JPM – Designers generally love incorporating their clients' favorite art pieces into their garden designs. Sometimes, these are bold,

statement items that require large equipment for installation, while other times, they are more intimate pieces, possibly even made by the client. Their placement within the garden design needs to be very carefully considered. I think the designers I have worked with find this part of the process fun, and their clients are usually thrilled with the final effect. It's very much a team effort—a collaboration between designer and client. It's often the last element to be placed in the garden.



When I first scout a garden, I always ask the designer about any important artworks. If a particular piece is special to the designer or the garden owner, I'm happy to showcase it by photographing a vignette that highlights both the artwork and its surroundings. That's where the photographer's perspective comes in: we look for ways to show how the art fits into the broader landscape design, enhancing the overall aesthetic of the garden.

LG – *You mentioned several gardens where sculpture placement played a crucial role, such as the "perfectly placed" lounging figures or the wind-driven kinetic sculpture in Lafayette. From a photographer's perspective, how does the positioning of art within a landscape influence its visual impact, and what advice would you give to designers looking to maximize the photogenic qualities of their artistic installations?*

JPM - When I'm in a garden, I'm always looking: looking for the light, looking for leading lines, and looking for the interplay between hard and soft elements (hardscape and plantscape). I studied landscape design at Merritt College, so I have training in garden design principles. I've also studied photography, so I approach a garden with a dual perspective: I understand the design intent, but I'm also thinking about how to best capture that intent through the lens. For example, I absolutely love the lounging

sculptures in the Giffen garden—one languidly hanging out at the edge of a grassy area, another nestled in the border, seemingly sleeping. These pieces were carefully placed by the artist and designer, creating a playful, outdoor gallery. As a photographer, I try to provide context for their placement by including elements of the landscape, so the sculptures aren't just seen as isolated artworks but as integral parts of the garden. The art helps define the space, and the landscape, in turn, enhances the art.

Jude has been a longtime *Landscape Design Enthusiast Member* of APLD California. See more of her work or get in touch through her website, judepmphotography.com

Right: Serene lounging figures nestled among Phlomis and ornamental grasses provide a natural frame.



ADVOCACY CORNER

We advocate for many important causes that impact our members, profession, environment, and issues with respect to equity and justice.



DEI
(DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION)



EDUCATION



LEGISLATION



OUTREACH

California Chapter members are the lifeblood of APLD.

Community outreach benefits us individually as landscape designers, the communities in which we live, and the environment as a whole.

This section will be a springboard to reach out to and promote our members, our causes, our accomplishments, activities, and our partners.

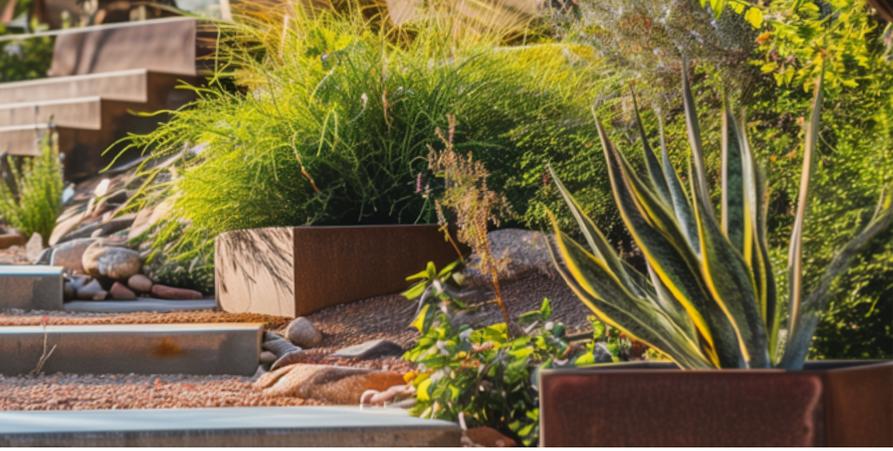
APLD CA Partners

An Advocacy Committee priority is to forge and strengthen new relationships with other organizations, such as:

- [The Xerces Society](#)
- [California Native Plant Society \(CNPS\)](#)
- [ReScape California](#)
- [California Landscape Contractors Association \(CLCA\)](#)
- [Pacific Horticulture](#)

For more information on our Advocacy efforts, and to get involved, please contact:

advocacy@apldca.org



What do YOU advocate for?
 The Advocacy Committee and its working groups give you a chance to make meaningful contributions, and to give your ideas wings!

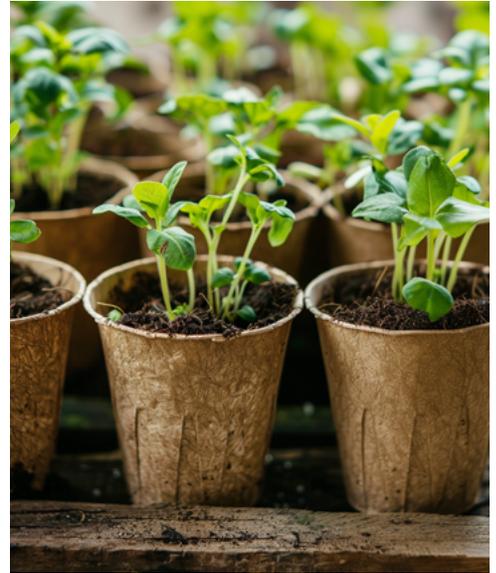


ENVIRONMENT

Plastic pots significantly contribute to the proliferation of plastic pollution. Through our Healthy Pots, Healthy Planet initiative we are raising awareness about the environmental costs of plastic horticultural pots to our earth and we are asking you to sign your name in support for more sustainable alternatives. We want

individuals, businesses, and non-profit organizations that share our passion for reducing plastic use in the horticultural industry to get involved.

Visit the initiative's website to [sign the petition today](#).



**ADVOCACY CHAIR
 POSITION AVAILABLE**

Are you passionate about advocating for sustainable landscape design? APLD CA is seeking a dedicated individual to fill the vacant Advocacy Chair position. This is your opportunity to lead our advocacy efforts, promote sustainable practices, and influence policy. If you're a motivated landscape designer with a vision for the future, we want to hear from you!

Key Responsibilities:

- Represent APLD CA in advocacy initiatives.
- Collaborate with policy makers and industry stakeholders.
- Drive awareness on key issues affecting the landscape design industry.

Interested? Visit our [Advocacy Page](#) for more details and send an email to president@apldca.org.

embodied energy, unleashed creativity

by **Shawn Maestretti**

/ Harnessing the power of discarded materials to evolve landscape design.



Above: A functional and fabulous "Arroyo" runs through a classic basket weave pattern of permeable bricks. Drainage for this patio is sent under the arroyo out to a neighboring rain garden.



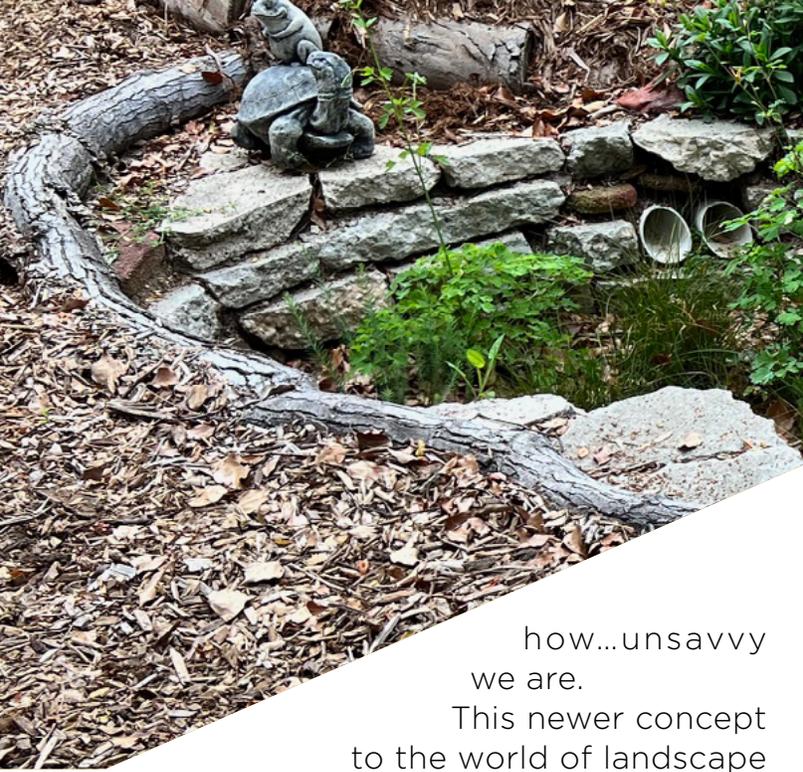
Do you ever feel heartbroken when you see a demolition project sending away bricks, chunks of concrete, and even those old pink pavers from the 70's?

Urbanite: a term that is used to describe unwanted, salvaged, or broken concrete materials that can be reused for new construction. We'd like to suggest broadening that definition to include any of the random, disparate, and forgotten nuances of the past. Materials that hold potential for an assemblage or mosaic work of art. Enhancing opportunities in the landscape, and holding both charm and drama with their use.

Humans are a clever bunch! We love to construct forms that remain stuck in time, diminishing their ability to flow with the rest of the natural world. There is a term for this. Embodied Energy. The cost to the environment is high, as energy use and emissions greatly outweigh Earth's regenerative capacity. This embodied energy is now locked into forms that were once clever and artistic, but now register as an unchanging reminder of yesteryear's fads.

The status quo would have our profession demolish this no longer fresh, or aging material, and haul it away. Imagine fostering a more thoughtful approach that interrupts the waste stream and rebuilds stunning patios, mosaic pathways, or even living rain gardens. What if this artful and conscious approach could also help us to optimize water resources through permeability, reduce emissions by not importing new materials, and conserve energy all around.

Over the past few years, we have been challenging ourselves, our clients, our contractors, and our students to produce as little waste as possible, and to do as little harm as possible. Not only in our design and construction work, but also in our everyday lives. When we consider the vastness of underutilized resources such as demolition materials (concrete, brick, pavers, glass bottles, rocks, artifacts, and more), we come to the realization of



how...unsavvy
we are.

This newer concept to the world of landscape design and construction requires effort, charismatic presentation, and most importantly, integrity to pull off something so disruptive to current practices. So far, the results have been beyond what we thought possible. And it is only going to get continually more creative from here!

Lastly, here is the secret sauce recipe!

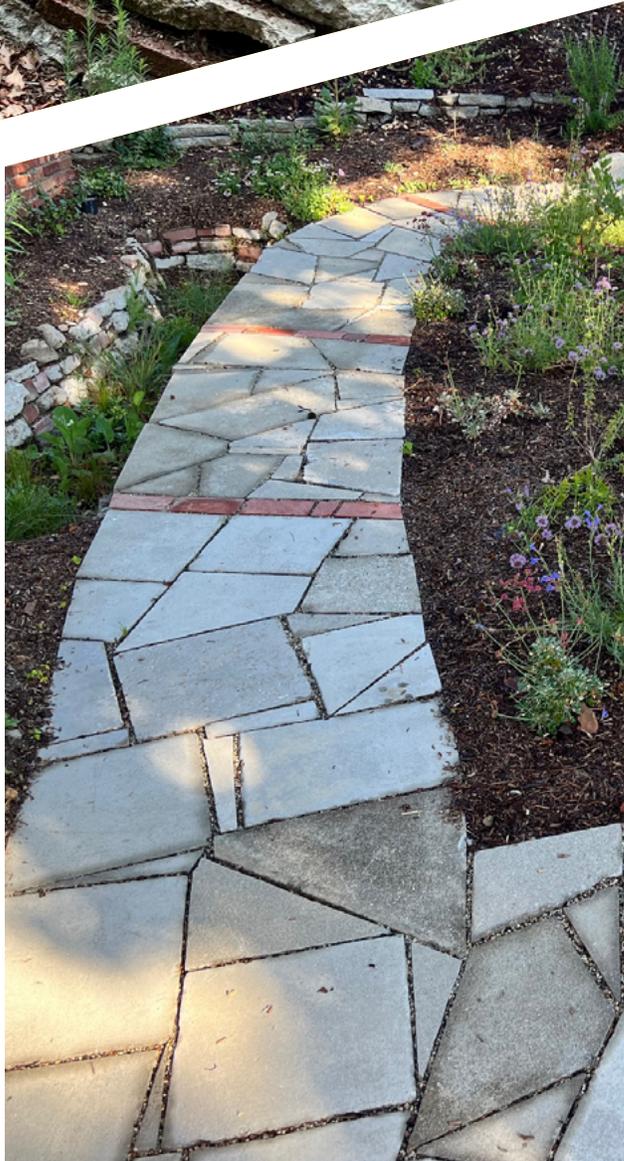
Together, as designers, contractors, and clients, we become co-creators when we loosen up our grip on heavily detailed landscape plans, and embody unfettered creativity in the garden...as a team.

The garden will always show us what it wants to become. And we WANT to be there as it happens!



To learn more about this, and other topics on regenerative landscaping, Shawn and Team Petrichor invite you to visit their instagram: [@the_studio_petrichor](#), and subscribe to their [newsletter](#) for webinars, and trainings.

All photos by [Studio Petrichor](#).



benefits to working with discards:

- Cost savings on materials (labor is labor, but quality construction is where the investment lies)
- Energy conservation
- Emission reductions
- Interrupting the waste stream while optimizing unused resources
- Water harvesting potential
- Fun and rewarding collaborations with contractors and clients to co-create works of art

The list could honestly go on and on!

On this spread: Rain gardens, patios, pathways, and many more can be re-imagined with an endless variety of on site materials.



GLOWING *gatherings*

Enhancing Outdoor
Spaces Through Artistic
Lighting Techniques

By **Toby Moreyra**,
Owner, **Pampa Lighting**

Landscape design is an art form that weaves together natural elements to create spaces of beauty and inspiration.

However, one of the most powerful and versatile artistic tools often overlooked in this design process is lighting. At Pampa Lighting, we believe that lighting isn't just a finishing touch; it's an integral part of the art itself, shaping how we experience outdoor environments and enhancing their aesthetic appeal.

LIGHTING AS AN ARTISTIC MEDIUM

Lighting has the unique ability to transform an ordinary landscape into an extraordinary work of art. Much like a painter uses colors and shadows, a landscape designer uses light to create mood, highlight textures, and guide the eye. Whether illuminating a sculptural piece, water feature, or garden pathway, lighting becomes a brushstroke that brings the entire scene to life. By playing with brightness, angle, and light temperature, designers can evoke different feelings and add depth, turning any garden into a dynamic and evolving masterpiece.

THE ART OF LIGHTING SCULPTURAL PIECES

Sculptures are natural focal points in landscape design, but without the right lighting, they can fade into the background after dark. Properly illuminated, however, they take on new dimensions, becoming mesmerizing features of the night garden. Lighting should be approached as an artful process in itself: uplighting can dramatize



the height of an abstract sculpture, while softer, diffused lights highlight intricate textures and cast intriguing shadows. The balance between light and shadow not only enhances the sculpture's beauty but also introduces an element of mystery, drawing viewers in for a closer look.

WATER FEATURES: LIGHTING IN MOTION

Water features like fountains, ponds, and waterfalls are inherently dynamic, and lighting can further amplify their visual impact. The shimmering, reflective quality of water makes it an ideal canvas for creative lighting design. Submersible lights within the water can add a captivating glow, turning each ripple into a dance of light and shadow. By experimenting with different light colors and angles, designers can alter the mood of a water feature, shifting it from serene to lively. This approach not only highlights the water itself but also the surrounding landscape, turning the entire scene into a fluid work of art.



CREATING FOCAL POINTS WITH LIGHT

In landscape design, focal points such as artful rainwater management systems or patch/matrix/corridor patterns serve as visual anchors. Lighting these elements thoughtfully is an art form that guides the eye and creates balance. Strategic placement of lights emphasizes the natural evolution of these features, making them stand out even during the nighttime. Path lighting, for example, isn't just a functional addition; it's a creative way to lead visitors through the landscape, revealing focal points as

moments of artistic discovery.

At Pampa Lighting, we believe that outdoor lighting is more than just an addition to your landscape; it's an art form that allows you to reinterpret and elevate the beauty of your space. By embracing lighting as a creative tool, you can transform your landscape into a living, breathing work of art that evolves with the changing light of day and night.

Pampa Lighting



2. EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT TEMPERATURE:

Warm lighting often adds an inviting glow that enhances the natural surroundings, while cooler tones can lend a modern, sculptural quality. Adjusting the temperature is akin to choosing the palette for a landscape canvas. Most residential properties use 2700k bulbs while commercial can sometimes go up to 4000k.

3. PLAY WITH ANGLES:

Changing the direction and intensity of your lights can dramatically alter the scene. This is your opportunity to sculpt the landscape using light, emphasizing specific features while creating shadows that add drama and mystery. Most of Pampa Lighting's bulbs go from 36 degrees to 60 degrees.

4. HIGHLIGHT NATURAL TEXTURES:

Whether it's the roughness of stone, pavers, the smooth surface of metal, or the flowing nature of water, lighting can accentuate these textures, turning the landscape into a tactile, visual experience.

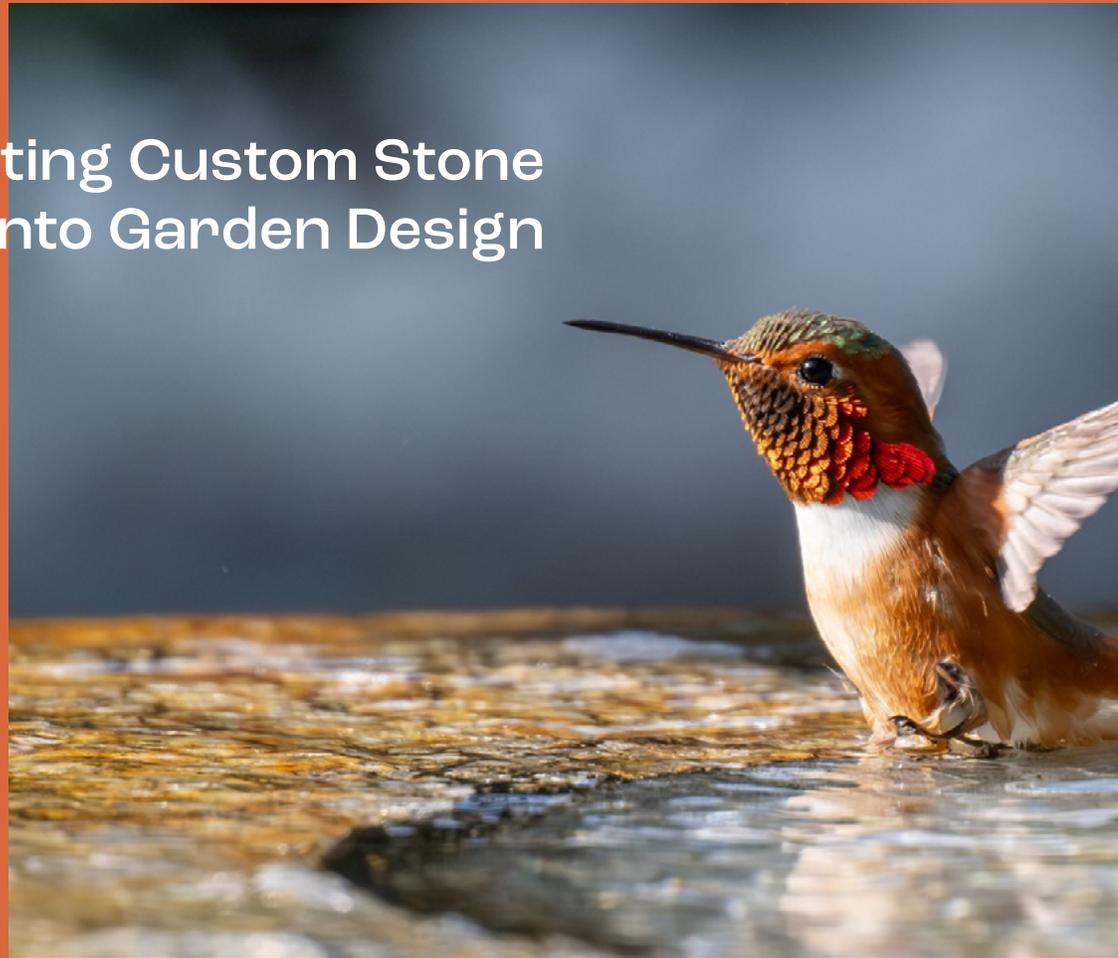
lighting as art: key tips

1. LAYER THE LIGHT:

Use multiple layers of lighting, such as spotlights, path lights, and ambient lighting, to create depth and visual interest. Also limiting the property adds depth to a project, making the spaces seem bigger at night time.

FUNCTIONAL ARTISTRY

Integrating Custom Stone
Features into Garden Design



Words and photos courtesy of
Shaun Ramirez,
Southwest Boulder & Stone



A garden is more than just a collection of plants. It's a living canvas where the beauty of nature meets human creativity.

At Southwest Boulder & Stone, we believe that incorporating artistic elements into your landscape can transform an outdoor space into a sanctuary of tranquility and inspiration.

THE SYMPHONY OF WATER: CUSTOM BOULDER FOUNTAINS

Imagine the gentle cascade of water over natural stone, sunlight reflecting on its surface, and the soothing sounds creating a peaceful ambiance. Our custom boulder fountains serve as mesmerizing focal points, inviting contemplation and relaxation. Each fountain is crafted to add a sense of permanence to the garden, creating a captivating sculpture enhanced by the calming sound of water.

FROM QUARRY TO MASTERPIECE

Every boulder fountain starts as a raw, unyielding stone, carefully selected for its unique character. Our skilled fabricators use diamond-tipped saws and precision tools to sculpt the stone, respecting its natural contours. This blend of artistry and technical expertise results in a one-of-a-kind water feature that's both beautiful and enduring.

INSTALLATION AND PLACEMENT

Strategic placement is key to maximizing the visual and auditory impact of your fountain. We recommend positioning it in a spot that receives partial sunlight to enhance the water's shimmer and allow surrounding plants to thrive. Our team guides you through the installation process to ensure the fountain functions seamlessly and stands the test of time.



TAILORED TO YOUR VISION

Your garden should reflect your unique style, and your fountain can be a personalized expression of it. We offer custom boulder fountains designed to meet your specific needs, from the boulder's size and shape to the style of water flow. Together, we'll create a fountain that harmonizes with your landscape and expresses your aesthetic.

A TAPESTRY OF STONE CHOICES

The type of stone you choose shapes the overall ambiance of your fountain. Whether you're drawn to the rustic warmth of sandstone, the timeless elegance of granite, or the dramatic textures of basalt, we offer a diverse selection of natural stones to complement your garden's design.

A FUNCTIONAL ELEGANCE: BOULDER BENCHES

A boulder bench is more than a seat—it's an invitation to pause, reflect, and connect with nature. Our custom boulder benches, crafted from handpicked natural stone, bring enduring beauty and practical functionality to any space, whether an intimate garden or a large landscape.

PERSONALIZED SEATING FOR EVERY SPACE

Every landscape has its own unique rhythm, and our boulder benches are crafted to enhance it. We offer a variety of styles and sizes, whether you envision a minimalist bench for a quiet reading nook or a series of interconnected benches for a gathering space in a corporate plaza. We work with you to design seating solutions that blend seamlessly into your landscape and invite people to relax and enjoy the outdoors.

BEYOND CREAT

Art in
and fo
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passio
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Let us
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LANDSCAPE SCULPTURES: UNLEASHING YOUR CREATIVITY

As the garden goes beyond sculptures and plantains. The thoughtful arrangement of plants, creative paving with flagstone, crushed river rock, and decomposed granite, all contribute to a living masterpiece. At Northwest Boulder & Stone, we're passionate about helping you create a landscape that reflects your unique style.

Let us help bring your vision to life. Visit our website by clicking our logo below, or contact us to discover how we can transform your garden into a sanctuary of natural beauty and artistic expression.



FALL/WINTER CALENDAR

Submit an event to the Chapter Calendar,
send updates or questions to:
calendar@apldca.org.

You can find the complete calendar of events
by visiting apldca.org/apld-events.



IN-PERSON EVENT

LUNCH & LEARN WITH BAY SCENERY INC

Wednesday, November 6 | 11:30AM - 1:30PM
Bay Scenery Inc. 2483 Old Middlefield Way
#Suite 160, Mountain View, CA

Join APLD CA Platinum Sponsor, Bay Scenery Inc. A multi licensed contractor (General Contractor, Landscape Contractor and Pool Builder) based in Mountain View. They will review a few projects including how they work with APLD members to develop projects that require permits, highlight technology they use for their projects as well as overall process.

[Free Tickets Available Here.](#)

IN-PERSON EVENT

PBM FALL VENDOR SHOWCASE AND HAPPY HOUR

Thursday, November 7
4PM - 7PM
PBM Masonry Showroom, Mountain View

Join us at the PBM Fall Vendor Showcase and Happy Hour on November 7 for an evening of networking, learning, and delicious wood-fired pizza! Partnered with AIA-San Mateo, this event features presentations on sustainable design, natural vs. cast stone, and permeable interlocking pavers. Don't miss this opportunity to connect and grow your expertise!

[RSVP Here.](#)

WEBINAR

EVERDE GROWERS HORTICULTURAL ENCOUNTER®

Weds & Thurs, Nov 6 & 7 | 10AM - 1PM
Online Event

Everde Growers is excited to host you at the 10th annual virtual Horticultural Encounter®: Growing Plants for Life! Each day, we will host a different keynote speaker whose work embodies the spirit of gardening with pollinators, people, and communities in mind. Tune in to hear the speakers, experience dazzling plant displays, learn about new plants, and become inspired to grow plants for life!

[Register Here.](#)



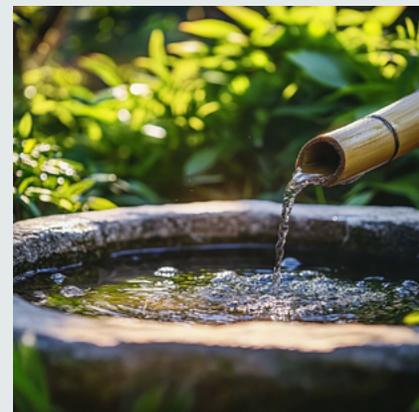
IN-PERSON EVENT

PRINCIPLES OF JAPANESE GARDEN DESIGN AND COMPOSITION

Saturday, November 16 | 8:30AM - 11:30AM
Everde Growers - Miramar Farm and
Landscape Center

This APLD workshop explores Japanese garden aesthetics, focusing on timeless composition principles rooted in nature's rhythms. Led by landscape architect Ken Siers, the class includes a lecture and hands-on exercise, emphasizing simplicity, naturalness, and tranquility—core elements of traditional Japanese garden design.

[Get Tickets Here.](#)



APLD DESIGNER PLANT FAIR

Saturday, November 10 | 8:30AM - 2:30PM
LA ARBORETUM

Come see, hear, and meet some of the top plant wholesale nurseries, growers, and local plant suppliers share their favorite stand outs for the Fall season! Find inspiration and important information in a day of exploration among tables filled with the latest botanical treasures and engaging grower presentations throughout the day. — This event is the perfect fusion of shopping, learning, and connecting with fellow gardening professionals and

enthusiasts. This marks our fifth Designer Plant Fair, and it promises to be our most outstanding one yet. — For those who crave a touch of excitement, we're bringing back the ever-popular Plant Lottery, not once, but twice during the day! You might get lucky and win a new treasure, or two, to add to your garden!! You must be present to win.

[Register Now.](#)



IN-PERSON EVENT

NATURE'S BEST HOPE CONFERENCE WITH DOUG TALLAMY

Sunday, November 17 | 1PM - 5PM
Mayer Theatre, Santa Clara University

A celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, in partnership with the Golden Gate Bird Alliance and the California Native Plant Society's Santa Clara Valley Chapter. Featuring Doug Tallamy, best-selling author of Nature's Best Hope, who will speak both days.



[Tickets Available Here.](#)

APLD VIRTUAL MEETING

BUSINESS MEETING AND TOWN HALL

Wednesday, November 20 | 11AM - 12PM

In this special meeting, we'll share key updates, accomplishments, and exciting plans for the future of APLD. This is your chance to hear directly from our leadership team about the progress we've made, our vision for the year ahead, and how we're working to support the APLD community. Don't miss this opportunity to stay informed, ask questions, and learn how you can get more involved. Plan to be part of the conversation shaping the future of our industry! — We'll also present our prestigious service awards. Celebrate those who are making an impact for our industry! Members are encouraged to submit questions for the board via email to membership@apld.org by Monday, November 11.

[More Details Here.](#)

IN-PERSON EVENT

SAN DIEGUITO LAGOON RESTORATION PROJECT TOUR

Thursday, November 21 | 10AM - 12PM
Coast to Crest Trail Del Mar, CA 92014

APLD members have an exclusive opportunity to tour SANDAG's W-19 Mitigation Project, a significant ecological restoration. This project includes 50 acres of intertidal wetlands, 15 acres of brackish wetlands, and enhanced riparian habitats, supporting valuable wildlife and ecosystem functions. Additionally, a new trail segment links Dust Devil Nature Trail to Coast and Crest Trail, enriching public access and education

[Reserve Your Spot.](#)

WEBINAR

STRATEGIC POLLINATOR GIS HABITAT ANALYSIS AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Thursday, December 5 | 11AM
Online Event | Approved for 1 CEU

Join this webinar to explore GIS-based habitat analysis for pollinator-friendly landscape design. Kim Chacon will teach strategic approaches to assess and enhance pollinator habitats through mapping and data analysis. Ideal for landscape professionals aiming to integrate science-driven strategies to support biodiversity and ecosystem resilience in their projects.

[Register Here.](#)

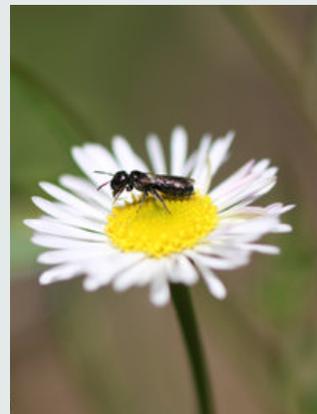


Photo by Kim Chacon

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Our sponsors help us do the important work of landscape design while supporting our continued education and networking.

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At APLD California, collaboration and community are at the heart of everything we do. This newsletter is created by landscape designers, for landscape designers, and your input makes it truly special. Here's a brief summary of what to expect inside each issue:

Insightful Articles: Discover the latest trends and best practices in landscape design from industry experts.

Upcoming Events: Stay updated on workshops, webinars, and networking opportunities.

Member Spotlights: Get inspired by the creative works and stories of your peers.

Legislative Updates: Learn about new laws and policies impacting our industry.



Your voice matters! Here's how you can get involved and help shape the content of future issues:

Submit Articles: Share your expertise and experiences with our community.

Submit Feedback: Let us know your thoughts on this issue and what topics you'd like to see in the future.

Join Discussions: Engage in our online social channels and [discussion boards](#) to share ideas and collaborate with fellow designers.

Get in touch:

Email us your stories, suggestions, and feedback at newsletter@apldca.org. Your contributions are essential to ensuring our publication remains relevant and valuable to all members.

