Award-Winning Landscape Designers Provide Valuable Insight and Tips for Creating Spaces in Complex Environments During Annual Lecture Series

Scandinavia House is Site of Botanical Garden’s Popular Landscape Design Portfolios Series that Kicks Off, October 20

This year, The New York Botanical Garden will present its 2008 Landscape Design Portfolios lecture series at Scandinavia House located on 38th Street and Park Avenue in New York City. Four expert landscape designers hailing from New York, San Francisco, London, and northern Virginia will address the challenge of creating or renewing designed landscapes in complex environments, discuss their significant projects, and provide insight into their working methods and design philosophies.

Spaces are still available for the popular annual lecture series, which begins on Monday, October 20 and has three subsequent Monday evening sessions on October 27, November 3, and November 10. The fee for each Landscape Design Portfolios lecture is $25 for Botanical Garden members and $27 for non-members. Attend all four lectures and receive a 10% discount. Visit www.nybg.org/edu/content, or call 718.817.8747 to register.

The topics and presenters for the 2008 Landscape Design Portfolios are:

Architectural Landscapes
Monday, October 20, 6–7 p.m.
Andrea Cochran, FASLA, Founder and Principal of Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture, has been practicing for more than 25 years in San Francisco, where she credits the temperate climate and progressive cultural environment for shaping her design philosophy: free of conventional expectation and characterized by artistic sensibility. Ms. Cochran will discuss a working vineyard and a mixed-use arts facility in Northern California and a Pacific Heights residential garden that provides a seamless connection with the architecture of the home.

Memory and Imagination
Monday, October 27, 6–7 p.m.
By his own description, London-based Kim Wilkie has tumbled through several different cultures and ecosystems. He was born in the Malaysian jungle, grew up in the Iraqi desert, studied history at Oxford, and received an MLA from Berkeley. As owner of Kim Wilkie Associates, he believes that landscape architecture deals with man and land and the stories they tell about one another. He listens to those stories and continues the tale, allowing memory and imagination to inspire his fresh designs. Mr. Wilkie will discuss the historic garden at La Pietra, now the NYU campus in Florence; the new courtyard for the V&A Museum in London; English country estates at Heveningham and Boughton; water meadow projects in Hampshire; and the latest proposals for Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania.

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Arboreal and Other Arks
Monday, November 3, 6–7 p.m.
Raised in northern Virginia, Warren T. Byrd, Jr., FASLA, spent his childhood living on islands in three bodies of water: the Mediterranean, South China Sea, and Chesapeake Bay. The diverse influences of these places—along with inherent passions for drawing, plants, writing, and a good story—made him a keen observer of the essential qualities that define a place and helped shape his distinguished career as both a legendary teacher and designer. Still grounded in Virginia, Mr. Byrd is Principal of Nelson Byrd Woltz. His thriving practice is working on the Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania, a two-block sculpture park in St. Louis, and the Wolong Panda Preserve in Sichuan, China.

Botanical Urbanism
Monday, November 10, 6–7 p.m.
James Corner, ASLA, is known for his plans to transform the enormous Fresh Kills landfill on Staten Island into a public park and for leading the design for Manhattan’s High Line. He is Founding Director of the New York firm Field Operations as well as professor and chair of the Landscape Architecture Department at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Corner’s firm specializes in cutting-edge landscape architecture, with an emphasis on urban design and ecology. During the lecture, Mr. Corner will showcase works where design and plants play an integral role in shaping new public spaces: the High Line, a one-and-a-half-mile garden along abandoned elevated rail tracks; the 4,500-acre Shelby Farms Park in Memphis; and plans for botanical gardens in Puerto Rico, Singapore, and Hengchun, China.

The New York Botanical Garden’s Continuing Education program, which presents the Landscape Design Portfolios, has helped people achieve their horticultural education goals for more than 80 years. The Botanical Garden offers over 500 different courses each year comprising seven certificate programs: Botanical Art and Illustration, Botany, Floral Design, Gardening, Horticulture, Landscape Design, and Horticultural Therapy. Classes are held during the day, evenings, and weekends to fit any busy schedule. Other satellite centers are located in New York City, Westchester, New Jersey, and Connecticut. For additional information, visit www.nybg.org/edu/content or call 718.817.8747.

The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road. It is easy to reach by Metro-North Railroad or subway. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit our Web site at www.nybg.org

The New York Botanical Garden is located on property owned in full by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. A portion of the Garden’s general operating funds is provided by The New York City Council and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Bronx Borough President and Bronx elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding.

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