

UC Berkeley

Places

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A Language of Color [Transforming the American Garden: 12 New Landscape Designs-Exhibitor]

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Authors

Falcon, Teresita
Antonio Bueno, Juan

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As a common theme for the exhibition, we were asked to address the flower. Its presence in the garden affects us in both a sensual and a symbolic manner. We sense its color, texture and scent. But we also recognize its metaphorical message of life, mortality and rebirth. Its radiant present remembers the past and foretells the future. Its language is that of the landscape. Its *color* is that of life.

The Landscape/These Gardens

These gardens emphasize the sensual presence and symbolic meaning of the landscape. The colors of the tropics, the rising of the sun, the cycling of the tides, the falling of night, the changes of the weather — all are celebrated. The gardens also mark the transitions from house to landscape, and from land to water and wind.

On the water there is a parterre of sun-blooming flowers wedged in a V-shaped ensemble that aligns with the summer and winter solstices on the horizon. The receding tide reveals a nautical pattern in the lagoon and around the flower parterre. A sculpture of light-columns beams

during the night, fog and frequent rain of South Florida.

The seaside site has three entrances facing west. One entry leads to the house with its patio of palms and pergola. The other two offer waterfront and tower access to friends and neighbors through pergolas and palm allées that mark the limits of the site.

The water-edge ensemble includes a grass parterre and a clipped bosque as counterpoints to the parterre on water. There is also a swimming pool bound by lawns and pergolas.

Next to the lagoon are two lawns. One is punctuated by a palm court. The other contains four palms connected by light-columns to their equivalent of a pergola by the pool.

Our Work

The emphasis of our work is the expression of the garden as shelter affording both freedom and protection; as transition connecting the house to the landscape; as synthesis responding to the indigenous landscape, contextual form and cultural traditions; and as manifestation of memory and imagination.

