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Hamptons Cottages and Gardens

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FASHION
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2015

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INNOVATION IN DESIGN

AWARDS WINNERS!

On August 6, *HC&G* presented the fifth annual Innovation in Design Awards, acknowledging stellar projects in the categories of architecture and interior, garden, kitchen, bath, and product design. At a top-secret judging breakfast in June, our illustrious panel—architecture critic Paul Goldberger, interior designer Jennifer Post, landscape architect Mario Nievera, and home accessories designers Kim Seybert and Madeline Weinrib—pored over dozens of entries in order to decide on the best among the best. Herewith, the winner, runner-up, and three finalists in each category, all of whom can rest on their laurels for designs well done.

TEXT BY DAVID MASELLO

Want to enter next year's competition? Go to cottagesgardens.com/idas for information.
For more details on the winning projects featured on these pages, see Resources.

GARDEN DESIGN



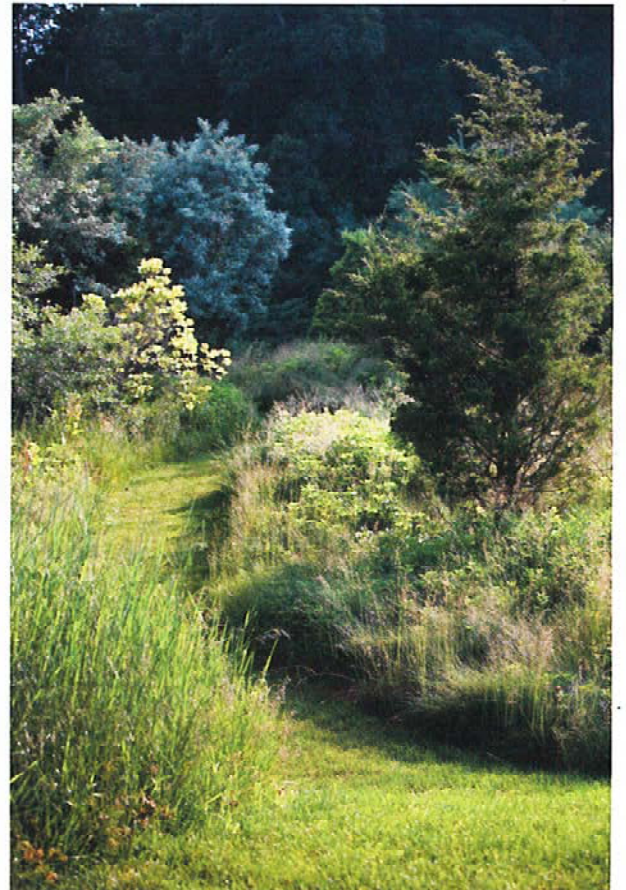
WINNER

EDMUND HOLLANDER LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

This garden is just as spectacular as its vistas of Peconic Bay. Landscape architect Edmund Hollander brought together the home's architect, stonemason, and his client to collaborate on the design, one that judge Jennifer Post says "is like an extension of the home—a stellar example of a minimal, modern garden." Landscape elements include a reflecting pool that serves as a water source and cascades over a retaining wall, a sunken courtyard with a moss- and fern-covered wall, and an entrancing labyrinth.



GARDEN DESIGN



RUNNER-UP **LAGUARDIA DESIGN GROUP**

Designer Chris LaGuardia decided to preserve a fallow farm field on this property in Water Mill as an integral component of his landscape design, so part of the plan involved letting nature do the gardening. The yield: a thicket of eastern red cedar, black cherry, bayberry, little bluestem, and switchgrass. LaGuardia provides balance with a precise modernist landscape, including tight architectural grass slopes set with minimalist cast-concrete steps, a striking arbor, and a black-mirror pool. "The spaces seem gallery-like—clean, light, and roomy," says judge Mario Nievera.



FINALIST
OEHME, VAN SWEDEN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

This decidedly contemporary house appears to occupy a site at the edge of a forest along Jones Creek, a tributary of Georgica Pond. The intention of Oehme, van Sweden & Associates was to fashion a series of outdoor garden rooms, as if they are adjuncts to the extant forest. Trees screen the residence from the road, and an elegant gravel courtyard and stone terrace were installed for more definition. Judge Paul Goldberger says the designers pulled off a garden that is "handsome, varied, and lush, yet never pretentious."



FINALIST
PEMBROOKE FINE LANDSCAPES

For a backyard retreat in Quogue, the designers at Pembroke transformed two storage sheds into handsome faux pool houses. The covered pergola that now links the structures serves as a sheltered outdoor entertaining area, while a Jacuzzi spa further underscores the symmetry of the two buildings. "The spa and pool are very pure," says judge Jennifer Post, "and I love how the trees hug the property."



FINALIST
WHITEFLEET DESIGN, INC.

The intention for this backyard retreat was that it feel Zen-like and removed from neighboring houses. "Everything looks like it has been there for years," notes Jennifer Post. The owner of this garden especially likes to visit the "thinking rock," a meditation seat overlooking a new lagoon-style pool.