The Chat

Where in the World is Madoos? Right here in Sagaponack of course! But our new tote travels the world and has inspired an Instagram campaign. Get yours as a gift with a membership of $250 or over and take a shot of it in your favorite locations. Tag with #notes_madoos and we’ll publish them in The Chat.

Calendars

MARCH 19
Madoos in Manhattan
Jenny Blom, Changing Nature: Towards a New Landscape

MARCH 25
Madoos Talks
Margie Reddick, Wild By Design: Strategies for Creating Life-Enhancing Landscapes

APRIL 17
Madoos Mornings at Madoos
Free children’s storytelling hour in the garden. In case of inclement weather, please check with the Hampton Library in Bridgehampton at 631-537-0015

MAY 12
Madoos in Manhattan
Jenny Blom, Changing Nature: Towards a New Landscape

MAY 25
Season Opening
The garden opens for the season. Fridays and Saturdays noon to 4:00 p.m.

National Public Gardens Day
Free entry and tours of the garden. Please contact the Peconic Land Trust for further information

MADOOS IN MANHATTAN
Fourth Annual Robert Dash Garden Design Lecture
Jenny Blom, Changing Nature: Towards a New Landscape

We are honored to welcome award-winning British garden designer Jenny Blom to speak at the fourth annual Madoos in Manhattan: Robert Dash Garden Design Lecture. Jenny’s lush and contemporary gardens for private clients, public institutions, and R.U.H. the Prince of Wales and H.R.H. Prince Harry run the gamut from therapeutic gardens to lavish estates in Europe, Africa, and the United States. Jenny is the author of the forthcoming Thoughtful Gardener: An Intelligent Approach to Garden Design. Per Outdor has hailed Jenny as “the most romantic, creative person in garden design.” Aware of our fragile ecosystem, Jenny uses her creativity to push the garden design canon forward with a thorough knowledge of British gardening design and keen plantmanship.


As we prepare for the next snow of the winter it’s amusing think back to the landscape full of flowers and friends at our fifth annual Benefactors Lunch on Labor Day weekend. A great group of Madoos donors—as well as some new friends—gathered for a tour of the gardens and a delicious lunch in the Magnolia Bosque prepared by Janet O’Brien Caterers + Events. It’s our thank you to those who helped make the summer of 2016 one of our best yet.
In August, actress Blythe Danner dropped by the garden to read to the kids with Josh from the Hampton Library. And, with the unseasonably warm weather, Monday Mornings at Madoo storytelling hour continued into the fall. We’ll continue with new secret storytellers from time to time helping out—and I’ll always be a surprise.

We finished the renovation of the sunken terrace in the spring, with a perennial height of Omphalea planted and donated by Landscape Details. We re-laid the paving and planters and painted the fences bright red and charcoal grey. This is the kind of change that’s occurring throughout the garden. Over seven Saturday evenings, the newly refreshed garden was the site of a series of intimate cocktail parties hosted by Sothby’s - revealing to scores of new visitors the beauty of Madoo.

Thanks to a very generous grant from the Ala and Ralph Isaham Family Foundation, we’ve almost completed the renovation of the pond gardens. The ponds were drained and the quarter-century-old lines were removed in preparation for the redesign. With new plumbing, the ponds will share a single recirculating system, and we’re adding a recharging garden where the pond water will be naturally filtered through aquatic plants. Water, we are learning, is one of our most precious resources and that one that is most at risk—even here on the East End of Long Island. This new water garden will be a showpiece of the garden and a wonderful illustration for our visitors of how a natural water system functions.

Many more projects—small and large—are in the works. As we continue to reimagine Madoo for future generations, we find ourselves celebrating the special genius of this place. Bob’s creativity, found indoors and outdoors at Madoo, will find new expression in revitalized gardens and innovative programs in the near future. This is especially crucial as more and more of our guests appreciate how Madoo is an environment for promoting creative thinking in a myriad of ways.

As we begin 2017, I’m particularly thankful for your generosity and kindness in supporting Madoo. It’s crucial to protect, preserve and enhance this place where children and adults alike can escape the real world and enjoy the beauty of nature.

My best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful winter season.

Stay green,

Alejandro Saralegui

DIRECTOR


In the second half of October, we began a major historic restoration of the ca. 1740 Summer Studio & House. The multi-faceted project will bring the building up to 21st century standards, while still retaining the creative spirit that Robert Dash established there.

The $1.1 million project will cap the Madoo Conservancy’s celebration of the 50th anniversary of Dash’s 1966 purchase of 1.91 acres of fallow Sagaponack farmland. Bridgwater-based Kathryn McCoy AIA is the restoration project architect. McCoy’s respectful design was approved unanimously by the Southampton Town Landmarks and Historic Districts board.

The biggest change to the buildings will be the construction under the barn of a full basement for mechanicals and storage. The exterior of the studio and the adjacent house will remain the same—with new windows, doors, creaky shake siding and roofs.

Once the site was cleared, Greg D’Angelo Construction came in and dismantled much of the building preparatory to raising and digging a basement. The contractors carefully preserved any usable materials found including 19th century barn wood that had been used as sheathing in an earlier renovation and even some loustau wood posts from the original barn.

The restoration of the Summer Studio & House is the cornerstone of the Madoo Board’s efforts to reinvigorate Madoo as a creative center for the community. The summer house will also serve as living quarters for our planned new gardeners’ and artists’ residency program.

And it’s your donations that make this possible. For information on renovation of Madoo please contact alejandro@madoo.org.
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Stay green,

Alessandro Sarracino
Director

Bookshelf
Here’s where we’ve been digging.

Luciano Giubbilei: The Art of Making Gardens
Luciano Giubbilei, Photography by Ana de Montgomery/Massart (2015). Welcome to the mind of Luciano Giubbilei, oftentimes misidentiﬁed as a minimalist designer. He has spent several years a month for the past few years in the garden of Great Dixter, the epitome of the exuberant English Garden. There, Giubbilei land- scaped a plot of ﬂowers mixing colors and textures at will and learning from the surprising juxtapositions. This experience, along with that of working with craftsmen and artists, has greatly expanded his oeuvre while still retaining the purity of the Renaissance gardens he grew up with.

Louis Benech: Twelve French Gardens
Eric Javsen, Photography by Eric Sander (Gourouff Gradignano, 2013). To gardening or to modify—that is the question. For Benech, a landscaper par excellence, the goal is to make it seem as if he was never there—but, of course, he was. His immense talent makes him sought-after the world over—not to give a “Benech look,” but rather to bring out the best in a property. He’ll suggest that a property owner finds some areas as the Mediterranean can be seen, adds another apple orchard (to mirror the existing one), or plants a parterre linking a pair of buildings. These are simple directives that make all the difference.

Wild By Design
Margie Ruddick (Belind Press, 2016). The urge to make a garden beautiful may seem obvious to the hobby gardener. However, in academia—the author, a Harvard-trained landscape architect teaches—aesthetic goals are not so obvious. Ruddick champions an ecologically sensitive environment centered on the human experience. Her own garden in Philadelphia (cited at one point for being overly wild) is now studied as an example of cutting-edge wild gardening. Ruddick will be speaking at Madoo on March 26.

Madoo Talks

FEBRUARY 28
Joanna Groarke
Redoute to Warhol:
Bunny Mellon’s Botanical Art

With her home at Lippincott, VA, Rachel Lambert “Bunny” Mellon created an environment where gardens and house flowed easily from one to the other. Her botanical art collection ranged from rare watercolors by renowned botanical artists such as Jacques Le Moyne de Morgues and Pierre-Joseph Redoute to 20th-century paintings by Patro Picóco and Andy Warhol. This collection was the subject of an exhibition this fall/winter at the New York Botanical Garden’s LuEsther T. Mertz Library Art Gallery. Joanna Groarke, Director of Public Engagement and Library Exhibitions Curator at The New York Botanical Garden, will be speaking on the exhibition and Mrs. Mellon’s love of gardens.

MARCH 19
Marshall Watson
The Art of Elegance

Throughout his 35-year career interior designer Marshall Watson has been known for crafting luxurious spaces for his clients, long well known is his own passion for gardening. His new book The Art of Elegance is notable for the inclusion of so many garden environments flowing from his interiors. With pristine views across the US and Sweden, Mexico and the Bahamas Watson’s creative vision exemplifies the notion of home as a complete unit combining house and garden.

MARCH 25
Margie Redddick
Wild By Design:
Strategies for Creating Life-Friendly Habitats (2016).

Award-winning landscape architect Margie Ruddick, urges designers to look beyond the rules often imposed by both landscape convention and sustainability checklists. Tickets are offers a set of principles for a more creative and intuitive approach that challenges the entrenched belief that natural processes cannot complement high level landscape design. Well known for her public commissions her residential projects urge homeowners to go in a new direction.

Tickets $20 members, $25 non-members. All lectures in the winter house studio at 10pm with a reception to follow. Tickets are available at: madoo.org/programs/lectures/ or info@madoo.org or call 631 697-0082.
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WINTER 2017
The Madoo Conservancy
618 Sagg Main St
Sagaponack, NY 11962
www.madoo.org

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Benefactors Lunch

Top left: Douglas Baxter, Amy Sullivan, Leslie Rose Ciuce, Tom Grunfeld, Top right: Annie Curtis, Tom Brandenburg; Middle left: Meagen Ouderkirk, Christine Vandermark, Middle right: Brian Pettingill, Sydney Tanner; Bottom: Barbara Siffka, Alejandro Barajacui

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