

Second Garden Study Weekend Planned at Hollister House Garden



Peter Wirtz

The art of gardening as a channel of personal as well as cultural expression will be explored in depth the weekend of August 27-29 at Hollister House Garden's second Garden Study Weekend in Washington, Connecticut. The program of stimulating lectures will examine the **Private Eye: Personal Expression in the Garden**—an appropriate topic for a weekend set in this romantic country garden, highly structured in plan but informally arranged, historic in fact but personal in feel. Peter Wirtz, of the renowned Belgian architectural landscape firm Wirtz International, will present the keynote address. The Garden Conservancy and Hollister House Garden are co-sponsoring the event.

The weekend gets underway with a gala Friday evening cocktail supper at Hollister House Garden. On Saturday, Peter Wirtz will

classical garden design with a very personal architectural sensibility. The company combines sculptural treatment of time-honored garden staples such as boxwood and yew hedges with a painterly handling of light and shadows.

Other speakers joining Wirtz will be Page Dickey, a prolific garden writer whose next book, *Embroidered Ground*, will be published in the fall of 2010; journalist and now garden blogger Margaret Roach; landscape designer Jill Nokes, author of *Yard Art and Handmade Places*; and Dick Button, whose garden in North Salem, New York, is an explosion of color, self-described as “an anything-I-like garden.”

In the afternoon, some of New England's finest specialty plant growers will present a plant sale, and garden designer Hitch Lyman and nurseryman Adam Wheeler will offer practical expertise during a Plant Show and Tell. Garden books, many authored by the day's speakers, will be on sale and available for signing.

The grand finale is the Garden Conservancy's Open Day on Sunday, featuring Hollister House Garden and five other exceptional private gardens in the area. Three of the gardens are opening to the public for the first time as part of Open Days.

Pre-registration is required for the Garden Study Weekend. For information on ticket combinations and to register go to www.hollisterhousegarden.org or call 860.868.2200. Sunday's Open Day visits are priced separately at \$5 per person per garden; tickets can be purchased in advance at www.gardenconservancy.org or at the gardens on the tour itself.



open the study portion of the program, to be held at the local Montessori School, with a look at aspects of gardening that influence both its artistry and horticulture. Wirtz International is distinguished by its genius in incorporating

Hollister House Garden Launches Circle of Friends Membership Plan

To celebrate its fifth anniversary as a Preservation Project of the Garden Conservancy, the nonprofit Hollister House Garden has launched a sponsorship program called Circle of Friends. Circle of Friends' support will facilitate additional educational opportunities such as the biennial Garden Study Weekend. See details at www.hollisterhousegarden.org.