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Nashville Arts

MAGAZINE

January 2013

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2013 ANTIQUES & GARDEN SHOW

News

By Emme Nelson Baxter

This interior-designer's name rings out with the fortitude of a James Bond utterance: Hadley. Albert Hadley.

The Nashville native, who was inducted into the Interior Design Hall of Fame in 1986, played a key role in lending national credibility to our city's most cherished February event: the Antiques and Garden Show of Nashville. The three-day extravaganza unites antique and horticultural dealers and world-class lecturers among magnificent gardens.

For its twenty-third iteration, the chairmen will pay tribute to the late Hadley, who captained the prestigious Parish-Hadley Associates firm of New York. The designer passed away this spring at age 92. Hadley was involved with the Antiques and Garden Show from its onset. His sophistication and national reputation set the tone early on, attracting top U.S. designers and lecturers, allowing the show to continue recruiting talented and insightful speakers.

"**He put us on the map with those in the antiques, garden, and design worlds, and so it is with great respect that we pay tribute to Albert Hadley this year,**" says Show Co-Chairman Birgitta Williamson. Co-Chairman Dana Miller adds: "Like Albert, our goal for this year's show is to 'give 'em what they never knew they wanted.' We hope everyone will come discover what that might be!"

Hadley's design philosophy was to create "**a quality of life and a beauty that nourishes the soul.**" His legendary portfolio included celebrated clients such as Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Brooke Astor, Oscar de la Renta, and Happy Rockefeller.

Hadley homages will be clear to attendees through the February 8–10 run of the show at the Nashville Convention Center. Here's a sneak peek.

The entry will feature a room inspired by Hadley and designed by Nashville's own Jonathan Savage of Savage Design Interiors. Jonathan considers himself an indirect disciple of Hadley as he worked in New York at David Kleinberg Design Associates. Kleinberg was trained by Hadley and shares the same "school" of thought.

Six teams will create six gardens inspired by Hadley wallpaper design. Plants themselves, patterns, and palettes will reflect Hadley's aesthetic sensibilities.

Garden designer Stephen Well and Savage will collaborate on the entry garden area based on a Hadley sketch of an "outdoor garden room."

The show's honorary chairman and featured speaker is acclaimed designer Bunny Williams, who spent more than two decades at Parish-Hadley. Her aesthetic has a modern vision with a respect for history.

This year's daily lineup of events includes:

A Benefactors' Reception and a Preview Party hosted by Bunny Williams on Thursday evening, before the show opens to the public.

On Friday, the show opens to the public and includes two lectures and the Collectors' Party. Lecturers include Bunny Williams and floral designer and founder of FlowerSchool New York Eileen W. Johnson, with floral designer Emily Thompson, who was guest designer for Christmas at the White House, where her designs included living gardens in the East Room.

The Saturday Workshop features FlowerSchool New York floral designers Eileen W. Johnson and Emily Thompson. Award-winning architect Gil Schafer, who recently published *The Great American House,* will appear for the Ask an Expert session. Schafer is consistently recognized as one of the leading practitioners of contemporary classical architecture. Saturday evening will feature "Entertaining with Cornelia," a lecture and book signing with Cornelia Guest, whose first book, *Simple Pleasures*, includes original vegan recipes, entertaining tips, and more.

Sunday features a lecture by Robert Balentine, founder of Southern Highlands Reserve, a natural woodland garden in Western North Carolina dedicated to sustaining the natural ecosystems of the Blue Ridge Mountains. **The show closes at 5 p.m**.

The inaugural Antiques and Garden Show in 1991 was chaired by the late Connie Cigarran and Sigourney Cheek and designed by noted Nashville-based landscape architect Ben Page. The event benefits ECON and Cheekwood Botanical Gardens and Museum of Art. ECON is a non-profit dedicated to fundraising with a focus on children. Since its inception, the show has raised more than $5 million for charities. Last year's show attracted approximately 7,000 visitors.

Tickets to the February 8–10 event at the Nashville Convention Center at 601 Commerce Street are $15 in advance and $20 at the door. Group and other discounts may apply. Parties, lectures, and workshops require additional tickets. For more information about the Antiques and Garden Show of Nashville, go to www.antiquesandgardenshow.com.