

Spring
+
Summer



*SOMA San Francisco Garden Tour
May 8, 2009*



San Francisco District _____
ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS



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Liquidambar Garden Design

Spirit of China

Images of the Yu Yuan Garden in Shanghai, where one of the owners grew up, loosely inspired the layout of this garden. Blending the opposing Feng Shui forces of Yin — *stillness, shade, moist* — and Yang — *movement, light, dry* — the garden provides harmony and tranquility through both sunny and shady areas of repose. Buddha takes pride of place nestled in the shade.

In the Shanghai garden, a walkway leading up to the Dragon Wall is paved with exposed aggregate concrete of slate-colored pebbles; here the owners favored warm-colored Salmon Bay pebbles. The owners preferred not to interpret too literally the Chinese style, so Feng Shui elements of water, wood, metal, earth and fire are inferred or incidental: the small pond 'feeds' ornamental metal birds; fire is represented by the deep red blossoms of Rhododendrons and Azaleas; mounded planting areas suggest the permanence of mountains and of the earth itself. Plantings emphasize lush evergreen and deciduous foliage, mostly native to China, with some climate-appropriate highlights providing local context. Regional stones were selected in shapes typical of classical Chinese design.

PLANT LIST

Acacia melanoxylon
Acacia stenophylla
Acer palmatum dissectum 'Ever Red'
Acorus calamus 'Variegatus'
Arbutus 'Marina'
Azalea 'Nuccio's Wild Cherry'
Azalea x 'Girard's Hot Shot'
Azalea x 'Mandarin Lights'
Azara microphylla
Bambusa oldhamii
Camellia japonica 'Debutante'
Camellia sasanqua 'Apple Blossom'
Camellia sasanqua 'Yuletide'

Carex elegantissima 'Variegata'
Chamaecyparis obtusa 'Gracilis'
Cyrtomium falcatum 'Rochfordianum'
Eriobotrya deflexa
Fuchsia thymifolia
Ginkgo biloba 'Princeton Sentry'
Hydrangea petiolaris
Hydrangea quercifolia
Larix decidua 'Pendula'
Liriope spicata 'Silver Dragon'
Loropetalum chinense 'Zhuzhou Fuchsia'
Mahonia japonica 'Bealei'
Mahonia lomariifolia
Nandina domestica 'Plum Passion'
Phyllostachys nigra

Pieris formosa forrestii
Pieris japonica 'Variegata'
Pinus strobus 'Nana'
Pittosporum tobira
Podocarpus gracilior
Podocarpus macrophylla
Polystichum munitum
Prunus lusitanica
Prunus serrulata 'Amanogawa'
Prunus x *cistena*
Rhododendron 'Fred Peste'
Rhododendron 'Jean Marie de Montague'
Rhododendron 'Nova Zembla'

