



Home & Garden

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Mierop Design Offers Creative Solutions For Suburban Gardens

Landscape designer Lisa Mierop learned about gardening in her own Montclair backyard. Ten years ago, as a newly transplanted New Yorker, she sought an outdoor activity that would combine her artistic and athletic interests. Gardening fit the bill on a grand scale as her small, wooded property was transformed into a showcase for alternative approaches to suburban design. Tons of moss rocks, yards of soil and hundreds of plants were brought in to create a small woodland paradise. The garden went on to win the grand prize in "Garden Design Magazine's" much-coveted Golden Trowel Award issue in 1996.

Following more press in "New Jersey Monthly Magazine," "The Montclair Times," and more recently, "The Garden Design Book" and "The New Garden" by noted English designer and author John Brookes, Ms. Mierop found her phone ringing with requests from friends and neighbors for garden design help.

That was the beginning of **Mierop Design**, Ms. Mierop's two-year-old Montclair-based landscape design company that offers creative solutions for suburban gardens. Specialties include perennial, mixed border and woodland designs.

"I like to design with a lot of color and texture so that there's a long period of visual interest from Spring to Fall," says Ms. Mierop. She adds that the real goal of her works is "to achieve great looking gardens that don't need a lot of fussy attention."

Using a generous mix of bulbs, perennials, shrubs and trees, Mierop's style is romantic and abundant, favoring the classic landscape beauties along with many less common and unusual plant selections.

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