



RENAISSANCE GARDENING LTD.
PO BOX 131, 495 MAIN STREET
HOPKINTON, RI 02833

RENAISSANCE NEW YORK
341 LAFAYETTE, SUITE 579
NEW YORK, NY 10012

Everything but the Kitchen Sink: Recipes for Great Mixed Borders

The Connecticut Hardy Plant Symposium
March 1, 2008

The gardens shown this Kitchen Sink lecture are among the eighteen featured on my website RGardening.com. I know you'll enjoy them all. I've listed the plants that were highlighted in the lecture, as well as their availabilities among twenty-eight exceptional vendors, so that you can purchase them for your own garden. All but Sylvan, Quackin' Grass, Broken Arrow, and Seven Arrows are mail order.

Kurt Bluemel is usually wholesale only, so your local nurseryman may need to order for you—but sincerity and charm never hurt, so call them up to enquire about a bit of retail shopping anyway. Whatever the price, it will be well worth it!

Sometimes the most desirable plants are also the least available. Indeed, I couldn't find a single current source in the US this year for the two plants marked N-A: Grafted standards of cryptomeria and the pure-yellow four o'clock, *Mirabilis dichotoma*. On the other hand, I myself have way too much *Rubus idaeus* 'Aureus' and *Eryngium giganteum*. Please call me to arrangement a time when you can come to my gardens in Rhode Island so I can dig you some of either from my robust colonies.

Don't hesitate to be in touch about any facet of the lecture, or about horticulture and design in general.

Kind regards,

Everything but the Kitchen Sink: Recipes for Great Mixed Borders

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Shrubs, roses, trees, pollards, coppices, espaliers, standards, tender tubers, edibles, groundcovers, self-seeders, grasses, vines, natives, containers, and, yes, even some perennials to include in your “flower” border. Mixed indeed!

	<i>Latin Name</i>	Common Name	Source
Woods Hole Summer Border			
	<i>Aconitum 'Sparks'</i>	Sparks' monkshood	8
	<i>Catalpa bignonioides 'Aurea'</i>	Yellow-leaved catalpa. (Spring pollard)	6
	<i>Eupatorium rugosum 'Chocolate'</i>	'Chocolate' Joe-Pye weed	5
	<i>Hydrangea p. g. 'The Swan'</i>	'The Swan' hydrangea	8
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia 'Frisia'</i>	Golden-leaved locust (Spring pollard)	13
	<i>Sinucalia tangutica</i>	Fern-leaf ligularia	7
Layout: Large & Simple			
	<i>Tilia cordata 'Winter Orange'</i>	Orange-twigg (in winter) linden	13
Shrubs			
	<i>Buddleia davidii 'White Ball'</i>	'White Ball' dwarf buddleia	6
	<i>Calycanthus floridus 'Michael Lindsay'</i>	'Michael Lindsay' sweetshrub	6
	<i>Cornus alba 'Aurea'</i>	Yellow-leaved Siberian dogwood	6

	<i>Forsythia intermedia</i> 'Gold Leaf'	Yellow-leaved forsythia	6
	<i>Orixa japonica</i> 'Aurea'	Yellow-leaved orixa	6
	<i>Paeonia ludlowii</i> 'Lutea'	Fern-leaved tree peony	17
	<i>Philadelphus coronarius</i> 'Variegatus'	Variegated mock orange	21
Trees			
	<i>Quercus dentata</i> 'Pinnatifida'	Fern-leaved Japanese oak	17
	<i>Salix eleagnos</i>	Rosemary-leaved willow	6
Fun w/ Pruning			
	<i>Buddleia alternifolia</i> 'Argentea' STD	Spring-flowered silver-leaved buddleia, untrained only	6
	<i>Catalpa erubescens</i> 'Purpurea'	Black-leaved catalpa (Spring pollard)	13
	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	Japanese cedar as a "forest"	8
	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i> 'Globosa Nana'	Dwarf Japanese cedar	19
	<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i> 'Globosa Nana' STD	Japanese cedar standard	N-A
	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> 'Bracken's Brown Beauty'	Hardy southern magnolia	8
	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	Empress tree (Spring pollard)	13
	<i>Poncirus trifoliata</i> STD	Hardy orange, untrained only	13
	<i>Ulmus glabra</i> 'Aurea'	Gold-leaved Scotch elm (Spring pollard)	6
Groundcovers			
	<i>Aegepodium podagraria</i> 'Variegata'	Variegated bishop's weed	20
	<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i>	Hardy plumbago	20
	<i>Geranium macrorrhizum</i>	Big-root geranium	20
	<i>Hakonechloa macro</i> 'Aureola'	Variegated hakone grass	8
	<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i> 'Aurea'	Yellow creeping Jenny	8
	<i>Petasites japonicus</i> 'Purpureus'	Purple-leaved butterbur	22
	<i>Rubus idaeus</i> 'Aureus'	Gold-leaved raspberry	Call Me!
	<i>Xanthorhiza simplicissima</i>	Yellow root	8

Vines			
	<i>Aconitum 'Sparks'</i>	Sparks aconitum	8
	<i>Clematis 'Lady Murasaki'</i>	Lady Murasaki's clematis	5
	<i>Clematis viticella 'Plena Purpurea Elegans'</i>	Purple late-summer clematis	5
	<i>Jasminum nudiflorum</i>	Winter-flowering hardy jasmine	23
Roses			
	<i>Rosa 'Eddie's Jewel'</i>	'Eddie's Jewel' rose	11
	<i>Rosa 'Nevada'</i>	'Nevada' rose	24
	<i>Rosa roxburghii</i>	Chestnut rose	24
Natives			
	<i>Cacalia atriplicifolia</i>	Prairie hosta	15
	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	Cup plant	15
Self-seeders			
	<i>Amaranthus cruentus x A. powelli</i>	Hopi Red Dye amaranth	10
	<i>Amaranthus gangeticus</i>	Elephant Head amaranth	10
	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Lead plant	15
	<i>Cirsium heterophyllum</i>	Melanchony thistle	16
	<i>Digitalis ferruginea 'Flashing Spires'</i>	'Flashing Spires' foxglove	16
	<i>Eryngium giganteum</i>	Miss Willmott's Ghost	Call me!
	<i>Oenothera glazoviana 'Tina James'</i>	Tina James' evening primrose	7
	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch thistle	16
	<i>Papaver somniferum 'Lauren's Grape'</i>	Grape-flowered opium poppy	25
	<i>Polygonum orientale 'Variegatum'</i>	Variegated Kiss-me-over-the-Gate	25
	<i>Tanacetum niveum</i>	Silver tansy	26
	<i>Verbascum blattaria</i>	Moth Mullein	16
	<i>Verbascum epixanthinum</i>	Yellow-furred mullein	16

Edibles			
	<i>Armoracia rusticana</i> 'Variegata'	Variegated horse radish	6
	Mystery rheum @ the Cambridge England Botanic Gardens	Mystery rhubarb	
	<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	16
Wintered dormant in the basement			
	<i>Amorphophallus bulbifer</i>	Voodoo lily	7
	<i>Brugmansias</i> , various, winter dormant in the basement	Brugmansias, various	7
	<i>Erythrina crista-galli</i> winter dormant in the basement	Bean tree, as a coppice	3
	<i>Firmiana simplex</i> , winter dormant in the basement	Parasol tree	19
	<i>Jasminum officinale</i> 'Fiona Sunrise' winter dormant in the basement	Yellow-leaved jasmine	5
Wintered in a cool greenhouse			
	<i>Ensete maurelii</i>	Purple-leaved banana	22
	<i>Eucomis comosum</i> 'Sparkling Burgundy'	Purple eucomis	3
NOT HARDY? Planted in the ground for the summer			
	<i>Canna indica</i> 'Purpurea'	'Russian Giant' canna	12
	<i>Dahlia</i> 'Classic Summertime'	'Classic Summertime' dahlia	28
	<i>Hedychium</i> 'Tara'	'Tara' tropical ginger	3
	<i>Mirabilis dichotoma</i>	Yellow four o'clock	N-A
	<i>Mirabilis jalapa</i> 'Alba'	White four o'clock	25

NOT HARDY? Kept permanently in an above-ground container			
	<i>Aeonium arboreum</i> 'Zwartkop'	Black-leaved tree aeonium	27
	<i>Agapanthus</i> 'Storm Cloud'	'Storm Cloud' agapanthus	3
	<i>Agapanthus</i> 'Tinkerbelle'	Variegated dwarf agapanthus	28
	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Lead plant	15
	<i>Dicksonia antarctica</i>	Tasmanian tree fern	26
	<i>Ensete maurelii</i>	Purple-leafed banana	22
	<i>Eucomis comosum</i> 'Sparkling Burgundy'	Purple eucomis	28
	<i>Eucomis pole-evansii</i>	Giant eucomis	28
	<i>Euphorbia cotinifolia</i>	Smoke-bush euphorbia	22
	<i>Geranium maderense</i> , 2 nd -year plant and then 3 rd -year in bloom	Madeira geranium	30
	<i>Jasminum officinale</i> 'Fiona Sunrise'	Yellow-leafed jasmine	3
	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i> 'Alba Grandiflora'	White lotus	31
	<i>Portulacaria afra</i> 'Variegata'	Elephant food	22
	<i>Tibouchina semidecandra</i>	Glory bush	
NOT HARDY? Kept permanently in a container, which is sunk into the garden for the summer			
	<i>Brugmansia</i> 'Snow Bank'	Snow Bank brugmansia	7
	<i>Clerodendron trichotomum</i> 'Harlequin'	Variegated bush clerodendron	21
	<i>Erythrina crista-galli</i>	Bean tree	3

NOT HARDY? Zone Denial			
	<i>Camellia 'Survivor'</i>	'Survivor' camellia	33
	<i>Rohdea japonica</i>	Rohdea	34
	<i>Kniphofia 'Cool Knip'</i> (under "dry-hat" cardboard-topped mulch)	'Cool Knip' poker	32
	<i>Caryopteris divaricata</i> (under "dry-hat" cardboard-topped mulch)	Herbaceous caryopteris	35
	<i>Tetrapanax papyrifera 'Steroidal Giant'</i>	Rice paper plant	3
	<i>Musa basjoo</i> , winter-protected with mulch, a wire cage, and a secure tarp	Hardy banana	7
PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER at an oceanside estate			
	<i>Acer platanoides 'Crimson King'</i>	Purple-leafed maple	8
	<i>Aralia elata 'Aureovariegata'</i>	Variegated tree aralia	6
	<i>Canna 'Australia'</i>	'Australia' canna	12
	<i>Catalpa bignonioides 'Aurea'</i>	Gold-leafed catalpa, as pollard	6
	<i>Cornus alba 'Aurea'</i>	Chrome-leafed Siberian dogwood	6
	<i>Cotinus coggygria 'Purple Robe'</i>	Purple Robe smoke bush	8
	<i>Datisca cannabina</i>	False hemp	16
	<i>Furcraea foetida 'Mediopicta'</i>	Variegated furcraea	35
	<i>Hibiscus acetosella</i>	Purple-leafed hibiscus	22
	<i>Hydrangea p. g. 'The Swan'</i>	The Swan hydrangea	8
	<i>Ligularia japonica</i>	Fern-leafed ligularia	7
	<i>Picea orientalis 'Skylands'</i>	Gold-needled spruce	36
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia 'Frisia'</i>	Gold-leafed robinia	13
	<i>Sambucus maxima</i>	Giant elderberry	13



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER at my own gardens			
	<i>Musa basjoo</i>	Hardy bamboo	7
	<i>Nepeta yunnanensis</i>	Yunnan cat-mint	5
	<i>Rosa 'Dortmund'</i>	Dortmund rambler rose	1

Exceptional vendors for these terrific plants

<p>1. Rogue Valley Roses Medford, OR</p> <p>V: 541-535-1307 F: 541-535-1307 Web: roguevalleyroses.com</p>	<p>20. Kurt Bluemel, Inc. 2740 Greene Lane Baldwin, MD 21013-9523</p> <p>V: 800-498-1560 F: 410-557-9785 Web: KurtBluemel.com</p>
<p>3. Plant Delights 9241 Sauls Road Raleigh, NC 27603</p> <p>V: 919-772-4794 F: 919-662-0370 Web: plantdelights.com</p>	<p>21. Cistus 22711 NW Gillihan Road Sauvie Island, OR 97231</p> <p>V: 503-621-2233 F: 503-621-9657 Web: Cistus.com</p>
<p>5. Joy Creek Nursery 20300 NW Watson Road Scappoose, OR 97056</p> <p>V: 503-543-7474 F: 503-543-6933 Web: joycreek.com</p>	<p>22. GlassHouse Works Church Street, POB 97 Stewart, OH 45778-0097</p> <p>V: 800-837-2142 F: 740-662-2120 Web: GlassHouseWorks.com</p>
<p>6. Broken Arrow Nursery 13 Broken Arrow Rd. Hamden, CT 06518</p> <p>V: 203-288-1026 F: 203-287-1035 Web: brokenarrownursery.com</p>	<p>23. Quackin' Grass Nursery 16 Laurel Hill Road Brooklyn, CT 06234</p> <p>V: 860-779-1732 F: Web: QuackinGrassNursery.com</p>

<p>7. Seven Arrows 346 Oak Hill Avenue Attleboro, MA 02703</p> <p>V: 508-399- 7860 F: 508-399- 8661</p> <p>Web: SevenArrowsFarm.com</p>	<p>24. Vintage Roses 4130 Gravenstein Hwy North Sebastopol, CA 95472</p> <p>V: 707-829-2035 F: 707-829-9516 Web: VintageRoses.com</p>
<p>8. Sylvan Nursery Westport, MA 02790</p> <p>V: 508-636-4573 F: 508-636-3397 Web: SylvanNursery.com</p>	<p>25. Select Seeds 180 Stickney Hill Road Union, CT 06076</p> <p>V: 800-684-0395 F: Web: SelectSeeds.com</p>
<p>10. Seeds of Change POB 15700 Santa Fe, NM 87506-5700</p> <p>V: 888-762-7333 F: 888-329-4762 Web: seedsofchange.com</p>	<p>26. Big Dipper Farm 26130 SE Green Valley Road Black Diamond, WA 98010</p> <p>V: 360-886-8133 F: Web: BigDipperFarm.com</p>
<p>11. Heronswood Nursery 7530 NE 288th St. Kingston, MA 98346</p> <p>V: 360-297-4172 F: 360-297-8321 Web: Heronswood.com</p>	<p>27. Plant Safari 3710 Via Real Carpinteria, CA 93013</p> <p>V: 805-705-4061 F: 805-684-4993 Web: PlantSafari.com</p>

<p>12. Karchesky Cannas</p> <p>Web: karcheskycanna.com</p>	<p>28. Brent and Becky's Bulbs 7900 Daffodil Lane Gloucester, VA 23061</p> <p>V: 804-693-3966 F: 804-693-9436 Web: brentandbeckysbulbs.com</p>
<p>13. ForestFarm Nursery 990 Tetherow Road Williams, OR 97544-9599</p> <p>V: 541-846-7269 F: 541-846-6963 Web: forestfarm.com</p>	<p>32. Seneca Hill 3712 County Rt. 57 Oswego, NY 13126</p> <p>V: 315-342-5915 F: 315-342-5573 Web: SenecaHillPerennials.com</p>
<p>15. Prairie Nursery POB 306 Westfield, WI 53964</p> <p>V: 800-476-9453 F: 608-296-2741 Web: prairienursery.com</p>	<p>33. Camellia Forest 626 Highway 54 West Chapel Hill, NC 27516</p> <p>V: 919-968-0504 F: Web: camforest.com</p>
<p>16. Chiltern Seeds Cumbria, England</p> <p>V: 44 (0) 1229 581137 F: 44 (0) 1229 584549 Web: chilternseeds.co.uk</p>	<p>34. Munchkin Nursery 323 Woodside Drive NW Depauw, IN 47115</p> <p>V: 812-633-4858 F: Web: Munchkinnursery.com</p>

<p>17. Fairweather Gardens POB 330 Greenwich, NJ 08323</p> <p>V: 856-451-6261 F: 856-451-0303 Web: FairweatherGardens.com</p>	<p>35. Asiatica Nursery POB 270 Lewisberry, PA 17339</p> <p>V: 717-938-8677 F: 717-938-0771 Web: asiaticanursery.com</p>
<p>19. Fantastic Plants 5865 Steeplechase Bartlett, TN 38132</p> <p>V: 901-438-1912 F: Web: FantasticPlants.com</p>	<p>36. Rare Find Nursery 957 Patterson Road Jackson, NJ 08527</p> <p>V: 732-833-0613 F: Web: rarefindnursery.com</p>