

1).

We will endeavour to shew how the aire and genious of Gardens operat upon humane spirits towards virtue and sancitie, I meane in a remote, preparatory and instrumentall working. How Caves, Grotts, Mounts, and irregular ornaments of Gardens do contribute to contemplative and philosophical Enthusiasms; how Elysium, Antrum, Nemus, Paradysus, Hortus, Lucus, &c., signifie all of them rem sacram et divinam; for these expedients do influence the soule and spirits of man, and prepare them for converse with good Angells; besides which, they contribute to the lesse abstracted pleasures, phylosophy naturall and longevitie.

- John Evelyn in a letter to Sir Thomas Browne, 1657

2).

Whatever is in any way beautiful has its source of beauty in itself, and is complete in itself; praise forms no part of it.

- Marcus Aurelius

3).

It isn't that I don't like sweet disorder, but it has to be judiciously arranged.

- Vita Sackville West

4).

Poetry is the art of creating imaginary gardens with real toads.

- Marianne Moore

5).

A garden without its statue is like a sentence without its verb.

- Joseph W. Beach

6).

When you touch a body, you touch the whole person, the intellect, the spirit, and the emotions.

- Jane Harrington

7).

I believe it is no wrong Observation, that Persons of Genius, and those who are most capable of Art, are always fond of Nature, as such are chiefly sensible, that all Art consists in the Imitation and Study of Nature. On the contrary, People of the common Level of Understanding are principally delighted with the Little Niceties and Fantastical Operations of Art, and constantly think that finest which is least Natural.

- Alexander Pope, 1713

8).

Beauty as we feel it is something indescribable; what it is or what it means can never be said.

- George Santayana

9).

Exhuberance is Beauty.

- William Blake

10).

I do not wish to die--

There is such contingent beauty in life:

The open window on summer mornings

Looking out on gardens and green things growing,

The shadowy cups of roses flowering to themselves--

Images of time and eternity--

Silence in the garden and felt along the walls.

- A. L. Rowse

11).

We have learned that more of the "earth-earthiness" would solve our social problems, remove many isms from our vocabulary, and purify our art. And so we often wish that those who interpret life for us by pen or brush would buy a trowel and pack of seeds.

- Ruth R. Blodgett (1883-), *The House Beautiful* (March 1918)

12).

Liberal gardeners are people who feel that, through gardening, we can alleviate our sense of alienation from nature; and that, through good gardening, we can repair some of the damage we have done to our environment. The most extreme liberals believe that there is an original or a

natural state in which the environment would be if we hadn't shown up on the scene, and that we have not only the ability but also a moral imperative to help nature return to this state.

- Deborah Needleman

13).

Lord of the far horizons,

Give us the eyes to see

Over the verge of the sundown

The beauty that is to be.

- Bliss Carman

14).

It seemed to my friend that the creation of a landscape-garden offered to the proper muse the most magnificent of opportunities. Here indeed was the fairest field for the display of the imagination, in the endless combining of forms of novel beauty.

- Edgar Allan Poe

15).

Because in particular moments, in the dusk of a late May evening, when everything glows, when green seems greener than you've ever seen it before, and the roses you planted are beginning to flower, future tasks don't matter, neither do past worries - because you witness a perfect moment of soul-restoring beauty.

16).

In the creation of a garden, the architect invites the partnership of the Kingdom of Nature. In a beautiful garden the majesty of nature is ever present, but it is nature reduced to human

proportions and thus transformed into the most efficient haven against the aggressiveness of contemporary life.

- Luis Barragán, Mexico

17).

"Remember, it is forbidden to live in a town which has no garden or greenery."

- Kiddushin 4:12

18).

Gardening as far as Gardening is Art, or entitled to that appellation, is a deviation from nature; for if the true taste consists, as many hold, in banishing every appearance of Art, or any traces of the footsteps of man, it would then be no longer a Garden.

- Joshua Reynolds, Thirteenth Discourse, 1786

19).

Beauty is excrescence, superabundance, random ebullience, and sheer delightful waste to be enjoyed in its own right.

- Donald Culross Peattie, *An Almanac for Moderns*

20).

Gardening is a luxury occupation: an ornament, not a necessity, of life.... Fortunate gardener, who may preoccupy himself solely with beauty in these difficult and ugly days! He is one of the few people left in this distressful world to carry on the tradition of elegance and charm. A useless member of society, considered in terms of economics, he must not be denied his rightful place. He deserves to share it, however humbly, with the painter and poet.

- Vita Sackville-West, 1892-1962

21).

Beauty is an ecstasy; it is as simple as hunger. There is really nothing to be said about it. It is like the perfume of a rose: you can smell it and that is all

- W. Somerset Maugham

22).

Oh fire of the Holy Spirit,

life of the life of every creature,

holy are you in giving life to forms...

- Hildegard of Bingen

23).

There is no "The End" to be written, neither can you, like an architect, engrave in stone the day the garden was finished; a painter can frame his picture, a composer notate his coda, but a garden is always on the move.

- Mirabel Osler

24).

Even while we study and master the individual tasks and lessons of gardening, the garden remains as a place that is far greater than the sum of its parts. After plant infatuations, color schemes, and double digging, there is still the essence of the garden, the central theme that invites our attention. Happily, the exploration and creation of the garden goes on. . . . and on . . . and on. . .

- Lynn Purse, *The Creative Gardener*

25).

The cottage garden; most for use designed,  
Yet not of beauty destitute.

- Charlotte Smith

26).

O Life-green finger of God,  
in you God has placed a garden.  
You reflect heaven's eminent radiance  
like a raised pillar.  
You are glorious  
as you perform God's deeds.

- Hildegard of Bingen

27).

Kiss of the sun for pardon.  
Song of the birds for mirth.  
You're closer to God's heart in a garden  
than any place else on earth.

- Dorothy Frances Gurney

28).

Crape myrtle, brilliant red, bursting forth;  
Hiding the garden.  
Some days, only the Garden, entire, serene;

Yet, hiding from sight, shy, single plants.

Seeing Both, seldom, but as One:

Sweat poured from my startled brow,

Dripping on the dry earth,

And all became Sunshine

And shadows of surprise unraveling.

- Michael P. Garofalo, Cuttings

28a)

My sister, my spouse, is a garden enclosed, a fountain sealed up

- Song of Songs.

29).

And every stone and every star a tongue,

And every gale of wind a curious song.

The Heavens were an oracle, and spoke

Divinity: the Earth did undertake

The office of a priest; and I being dumb

(Nothing besides was dumb) all things did come

With voices and instructions...

- Thomas Traherne, Dumbness, 17th Century

30).

I believe that the universe is one being, all its parts are different expressions of the same energy, and they are all in communication with each other, therefore parts of one organic whole.



(This is physics, I believe, as well as religion.) The parts change and pass, or die, people and races and rocks and stars; none of them seems to me important in itself, but only the whole. The whole is in all its parts so beautiful, and is felt by me to be so intensely in earnest, that I am compelled to love it, and to think of it as divine. It seems to me that this whole alone is worthy of the deeper sort of love; and that there is peace, freedom, I might say a kind of salvation, in turning one's affections outward toward this one God, rather than inwards on one's self, or on humanity, or on human imaginations and abstractions - the world of the spirits.

- Robinson Jeffers, 1934

31).

And oh if there be an Elysium on earth,

It is this, it is this!

- Thomas Moore. 1779-1852

32).

Oh boldest path,

penetrating into all places,

in the heights, on earth,

and in every abyss,

you bring and bind all together

From you clouds flow, air flies,

Rocks have their humours,

Rivers spring forth from the waters

And earth wears her green vigour

- Hildegard of Bingen

33).

A good luck site has a gently sloping level which sluices off channels of running water through zoned areas. If a spring is lacking, either a well needs sinking or, if you can't manage this, a fishpond must be built higher up, so that when rainfall brings it in water, the garden is watered through the heat of summer. If you lacked all these possibilities, you'll dig a little garden three or four foot down, just like trenching - cultivated this way it can forget about spells of drought.

- Palladius

34).

For a garden unaided by natural water, you'll keep watch on turning the space for cultivation with half in winter to south, half in summer to north.

35).

By means of microscopic observation and astronomical projection the lotus flower can become the foundation for an entire theory of the universe and an agent whereby we may perceive Truth.

- Yukio Mishima

36).

If you truly love Nature, you will find beauty everywhere.

- Vincent Van Gogh

37).

Do not, I beg you, look for anything behind phenomena. They are themselves their own lesson.

- Goethe

38).

I am that great and fiery force  
sparkling in everything that lives;  
in shining of the river's course,  
in greening grass that glory gives...

Hildegard of Bingen

38a)

Each moment of the universe  
And all the universes  
Are reflected in each other  
And in all their parts and  
Thence again in themselves.

\* \* \*

Every item of this cosmos  
Of possibilities is the  
Mode by which I apprehend  
A person. Each person chooses  
His own time and space as he  
Continually adjusts  
Himself to other persons. . . .  
They of course may appear  
Not only as persons.

- Rexroth

39).

In our gardens, Lord Ganesha sends His power through fruits and vegetables, the ones that grow above the ground, to permeate our nerve system with wisdom, clearing obstacles in our path when eaten. The growers of them treat it like they would care for Ganesha in His physical form.

- Hindu Deva Shastra, verse 438, Nature Devas

40).

Art is that Ithaca

of green eternity, not wonders.

Art is endless like the river flowing

passing yet remaining; it mirrors the same

inconstant Heraclitus, who is the same

and yet another, like the river flowing.

-Borges, *The Art of Poetry*

41).

Of course the Dharma-body of the Buddha was the hedge at the bottom of the garden. At the same time, and no less obviously, it was these flowers, it was anything that I – or rather the blessed Not-I - cared to look at.

- Aldous Huxley

42).

Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circles of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace.

- May Sarton

43).

A certain day became a presence  
to me; there it was, confronting me — a sky, air, light:  
a being. And before it started to descend  
from the height of noon, it leaned over  
and struck my shoulder as if with  
the flat of a sword, granting me  
honor and a task. The day's blow  
rang out, metallic — or it was I, a bell awakened,  
and what I heard was my whole self  
saying and singing what it knew: I can.

- Denise Levertov, *Variation on a Theme by Rilke*  
(*The Book of Hours, Book I, Poem 1, Stanza 1*)

44).

Most noble  
evergreen with your roots  
in the sun:  
you shine in the cloudless  
sky of a sphere no earthly  
eminence can grasp,  
enfolded in the clasp  
of ministries divine.

- Hildegard of Bingen

45).

When I would re-create myself, I seek the darkest wood, the thickest and most interminable and to the citizen, most dismal, swamp. I enter as a sacred place, a *Sanctum sanctorum*. There is the strength, the marrow, of Nature.

- Henry David Thoreau, *Walking*, 1851

46).

What greater delight is there than to behold the earth apparelled with plants as with a robe of embroidered works, set with Orient pearls and garnished with the great diversitie of rare and costly jewels. But these delights are in the outward senses. The principle delight is in the minde, singularly enriched with the knowledge of these visible things, setting forth to us the invisible wisdom and admirable workmanship of almighty God.

- John Gerard, 1633, *The Herbal*

47).

A stranger here

Strange things doth meet, strange glories see;

Strange treasures lodged in this fair world appear,

Strange all, and new to me.

But that they mine should be, who nothing was,

That strangest is of all, yet brought to pass.

- Thomas Traherne (1637-1674) *The Salutation*

48).

The first act of awe, when man was struck with the beauty or wonder of Nature, was the first spiritual experience.

- Henryk Skolimowski

49).

The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing that stands in the way. Some see nature all ridicule and deformity . . . and some scarce see nature at all. But to the eyes of the man of imagination, nature is imagination itself.

- William Blake

50).

What I know of the divine sciences and Holy Scriptures, I learned in woods and fields. I have no other masters than the beeches and the oaks.

- Saint Bernard of Clairvaux

51).

In all things of nature there is something marvelous.

- Aristotle

52).

A little too abstract, a little too wise,  
It is time for us to kiss the earth again,  
It is time to let the leaves rain from the skies,  
Let the rich life run to the roots again.

- Robinson Jeffers

53).

A monk asked Joshu, "What is the meaning of Bodidharma's coming to China?" Joshu said,

"The oak tree in the garden."

"A monk asked Zhaozhou, "What is the living meaning of Zen?." Zhaozhou said,

"The cypress tree in the yard."

- Case 37 from the *Mumonkan (Wumenguan) Collection of Zen Koans*

*The Oak Tree in the Courtyard*

54).

So will I build my altar in the fields,  
And the blue sky my fretted dome shall be,  
And the sweet fragrance that the wild flower yields  
Shall be the incense I will yield to thee.

- Samuel Taylor Coleridge

54a)

A tender shepherdess, whose hair  
Hangs loosely playing in the air,  
Transplanting flowers from the green hill,  
To crown her head, and bosom fill.

- Andrew Marvell



55).

Without the body, the wisdom of the larger self cannot be known.

- John Conger

56).

All finite things reveal infinitude:

The mountain with its singular bright shade

Like the blue shine on freshly frozen snow,

The after-light upon ice-burdened pines;

Odor of basswood upon a mountain slope,

A scene beloved of bees;

Silence of water above a sunken tree:

The pure serene of memory of one man,--

A ripple widening from a single stone

Winding around the waters of the world.

- Theodore Roethke

57).

Here in this body are the sacred rivers: here are the sun and moon, as well as all the pilgrimage places. I have not encountered another temple as blissful as my own body.

- Saraha

58).

In this light, my spirit saw through all things and into all creatures, and I recognized God in grass and plants.

- Jacob Boehme

58a)

These pictures and a thousand more

Of thee my gallery do store

In all the forms thou canst invent

Either to please me, or torment:

- Andrew Marvell

59).

Methinks my own soul must be a bright invisible green.

- Henry David Thoreau

59a)

But, of these pictures and the rest,

That at the entrance likes me best:

Where the same posture, and the look

Remains, with which I first was took:

- Andrew Marvell

60).

And this, our life, exempt from public haunt, finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,  
sermons in stones, and good in everything.

- William Shakespeare

61).

Oh fire of the Holy Spirit,  
life of the life of every creature,  
holy are you in giving life to forms...

Oh boldest path,  
penetrating into all places,  
in the heights, on earth,  
and in every abyss,  
you bring and bind all together  
From you clouds flow, air flies,  
Rocks have their humours,  
Rivers spring forth from the waters  
And earth wears her green vigour

O ignis Spiritus Paracliti

- Hildegard of Bingen

62).

Painting is closely related to gardening but closer still is poetry.

- Robert Dash

63).

If you ask me what I came to do in this world, I, an artist, will answer you: I am here to live out loud.

- Emile Zola

64).

I am writing in the garden. To write as one should of a garden one must write not outside it or merely somewhere near it, but in the garden.

- Frances Hodgson Burnett

65).

Those who are willing to be vulnerable move among mysteries.

- Theodore Roethke

66).

There are points of time, of distant memory, when the soul unites within the pattern of the universe. That union brings forth the understanding of life's harmony. So it should be within the garden ...

67).

The richness I achieve comes from Nature, the source of my inspiration.

- Claude Monet

67a)

Dear wood, and you, sweet solitary place,  
Where from the vulgar I estranged live,  
Contented more with what your shades me give  
Than if I had what Thetis doth embrace ...

- William Drummond,

68).

When I see  
Heaven and earth as  
My own garden,  
I live that moment  
Outside the Universe.

- *A Zen Harvest: Japanese Folk Zen Sayings*, p. 53

68a).

Such harmony of Soul this Place inspires  
All furious Passions and all fierce Desires  
Are here becalm'd ...

- Lady Irwin, 1733

69).

Surely green is the color of Pan, god of Life ... It is all around, so omnipotent that it is no longer recognized as a colour in its own right.

- Nori and Sandra Pope, *Colour by Design*

69a).

In the assemblies of the enlightened ones there have been many cases of mastering the Way bringing forth the heart of plants and trees; this is what awakening the mind for enlightenment is like. The fifth patriarch of Zen was once a pine-planting wayfarer; Rinzai worked on planting cedars and pines on Mount Obaku. ... Working with plants, trees, fences and walls, if they practice sincerely they will attain enlightenment.

- Dogen Zenji, Japanese Zen Buddhist Grand Master

*Awakening the Unsurpassed Mind*, #31

70).

.... all blades of grass, wood, and stone, all things are One.

- Meister Eckhart

71).

Consult the Genius of the Place in all.

- Alexander Pope

71a)

Clora, come view my soul, and tell

Whether I have contrived it well.

Now all its several lodgings lie

Composed into one gallery;

And the great arras-hangings, made  
Of various faces, by are laid;  
That, for all furniture, you'll find  
Only your picture in my mind

Andrew Marvell

72).

A person who undertakes to grow a garden at home, by practices that will preserve rather than exploit the economy of the soil, has his mind precisely against what is wrong with us.... What I am saying is that if we apply our minds directly and competently to the needs of the earth, then we will have begun to make fundamental and necessary changes in our minds. We will begin to understand and to mistrust and to change our wasteful economy, which markets not just the produce of the earth, but also the earth's ability to produce.

- Wendell Berry, 1970

72a).

Sweet are the paths, O passing sweet,  
By Eske's fair stream that run,  
Oe'r airy steep, through copsewood deep,  
Impervious to the sun;

Who knows not Melville's beechy grove  
And Roslin's rocky glen,  
Dalkeith which all the virtues love,  
And classic Hawthornden.

- Sir Walter Scott

73).

Nothing is more completely the child of art than a garden.

- Sir Walter Scott

73a).

Take mee to you, imprison me, for I  
Except you'enthrall mee, never shall be free,  
Nor ever chast, except you ravish mee

- John Donne

73b).

In the name of  
Man, member,  
and the holy fluid,  
AMEN.

- Takahashi

74)

What is divinity if it can come  
Only in silent shadows and in dreams?  
Shall she not find in comforts of the sun,  
In pungent fruit and bright, green wings, or else  
In any balm or beauty of the earth,  
Things to be cherished like the thought of heaven?  
Divinity must live within herself:  
Passions of rain, or moods in falling snow;  
Grievings in loneliness, or unsubdued  
Elations when the forest blooms; gusty



Emotions on wet roads on autumn nights;  
All pleasures and all pains, remembering  
The bough of summer and the winter branch,  
These are the measures destined for her soul.

- Wallace Stevens, Sunday Morning, 1915

74a).

They are trembling for love  
At street corners, on the stairs of cheap hotels  
Promise me your Paradise  
And give me a tiny, tiny happiness

- Takahashi

75).

To tell you the truth, my tenants have a notion that I am atheistically inclined, by putting up heathen statues and writing on them certain words in an unknown language. They immediately suspected me for a papist, and my statues had been demolished, my woods burnt and my throat cut had not I suddenly placed a seat under a holly bush with this plain inscription, "Sit Down and Welcome." I have assured them that all the Latin mottoes are to this purpose, and that in places where they cannot sit down, I have desired them in the old Norman dialect to go to the lodge, and drink whiskey.

- Lord John Orrey (1707-1762), Letters

76).

Poets and novelists are often moved to put into words the subtle qualities of the landscape, sometime purely for the beauty of it, and sometimes as a way of alluding to certain human feelings. Landscape design can translate such literary landscapes into three-dimensional form

in the garden. Like the poet, the garden designer may allude to human feelings in his portrayals of nature.

- David S. Slawson, *Secret Teachings in the Art of Japanese Gardens*, 1987, p. 131

77).

Beauty is the adjustment of all parts proportionately so that one cannot add or subtract or change without impairing the harmony of the whole.

- Leon B. Alberti

78).

In a field I am the absence of field. That is always the case. Wherever I am, I am what is missing. When I walk I part the air and always the air moves in to fill the space where my body has been. We all have reasons for moving. I move to keep things whole.

- Mark Strand

79),

Not only in grass fields with green leaf and running brook did this constant desire find renewal. More deeply still with living human beauty; the perfection of form, the simple fact of forms, ravished and always will ravish me away. In this lies the outcome and end of all the loveliness of sunshine and green leaf, of flowers, pure water and sweet air. This is embodiment and highest expression; the scattered, uncertain, and designless loveliness of tree and sunshine brought to shape. Through this beauty I prayed deepest and longest, and down to this hour. The shape the divine idea of that shape the swelling muscle or the dreamy limb, strong sinew or curve of bust, Aphrodite or Hercules, it is the same. That I may have the soul-life, the soul-nature, let the divine beauty bring to me divine soul.

- Richard Jefferies, *The Story of My Heart*

80).

Then all at once in late August's heat, tall leafless stalks crowned with iridescent pink and purple blossoms burst from the purgatory in the earth. This arcane act of nature, though perceived by

us as ordinary, is a manifestation of Maya's phantom play, the great immensity expressed in every way. My garden is the universe. I am the universe. I am my garden. All things are the same.

- Duane Michals, *The Vanishing Act*

81).

The work of art is born of the intelligence's refusal to reason the concrete. It marks the triumph of the carnal.

- Albert Camus

82).

There is no excellent beauty that hath not some strangeness in the proportion.

- Francis Bacon

82a)

To such a place our camp remove

As will no siege abide.

Sir John Suckling

82b).

Drumlanrig, like Chatsworth in Darbyshire, is like a fine picture in a dirty grotto, or like an equestrian statue set up in a barn; 'tis environ'd with mountains, and that of the wildest and most hideous aspect in all the south of Scotland ... That which was more surprising than all the rest, was to see a palace so glorious, gardens so fine, and everything so truly magnificent, and all in a wild, mountainous country, the like we had not seen before ... The house stands on the top of a rising ground, which, at its first building, lay with a steep and uncouth descent to the river, and

which made the lookers on wonder what the Duke [of Queensberry] meant to build in such a disproportion'd place; but he best understood his own design; for the house once laid out, all that unequal descent is so beautifully levell'd and lay'd out in slopes and terrasses, that nothing can be better design'd, or, indeed better perform'd than the gardens are, which take up the whole south and west sides of the house.

The Englishman, Sir Daniel Defoe, of Dumlanrig, Scotland, 1707

83).

The flowing waters carry the image of the peach

blossoms far, far away;

There is an earth, there is a heaven, unknown to men.

- Li Po, *Answering a Question in the Mountains*

83a)

At the entrance of a cave was a Venus, stooping to pull a thorn out of her foot. The statue turned from you, and just Over the two nether hills of snow were these lines of Virgil: *Hic locus est, partes ubi se via fundit in ambas: H ac iter Elysium obis; at leave malorum Exercet poenas, ed ad impia Tartara mittit.* On the inside, over a mossy couch, was the following exhortation: *te, agite, o juvences; partier fundatem edullis Omnibus intervos; non murmura vestrum columbae Brachia non hederæ, non vincant oscula conchæ.* The favourite doctrine of the Abbey, is certainly not penitence; for in the centre of the orchard is a very grotesque figure, and in his hands a reed stood flaming, tip't with fire, to use Milton's words; and you might trace out *peni tento non penitenti.*

- John Wilkes, on the ruins of the Cistercian abbey at Medmenham, in the 1740s.

84).

Every garden is unique with a multitude of choices in soils, plants and themes. Finding your garden theme is as easy as seeing what brings a smile to your face.

- Teresa Watkins, *Gardening With Soul*

84a)

We are merely the traveler looking for  
Our own shadow in the dark of the soul  
Intricate as an Arabian labyrinth  
Should another of our self appear from a corner  
Suddenly, like light  
We would leap to him, hug him  
And in hugging and tears, melt and become one.

-- Takahashi

85).

Natural objects themselves, even when they make no claim to beauty, excite the feelings, and occupy the imagination. Nature pleases, attracts, delights, merely because it is nature. We recognize in it an Infinite Power.

- Karl Wilhelm Humboldt

86).

Remember that gardeners generally want to share knowledge and hear your comments, so don't be shy about starting a conversation. Like artists, most gardeners want to know how their creation communicates with the viewer. See if you can discover the spirit and vision behind the garden and reflect on what is moved within you.

- Suzanne Edison, *Ask Questions*

86a)

My Mind was once the true survey  
Of all these Meadows fresh and gay;  
And in the greenness of the Grass  
Did see its Hopes as in a Glass:

When Juliana came, and She

What I do to the Grass, does to my Thoughts and Me

-- Andrew Marvell

87).

Don't underestimate the therapeutic value of gardening. It's the one area where we can all use our nascent creative talents to make a truly satisfying work of art.

Every individual, with thought, patience and a large portion of help from nature, has it in them to create their own private paradise: truly a thing of beauty and a joy for ever.

- Geoff Hamilton, *Paradise Gardens*, 1997

88).

A statue in a garden is to be considered as one part of a scene or landscape.

- Shenstone

88a).

What a delightful Entertainment must it be to the Fair Sex, whom their native Modesty, and the Tenderness of Men towards them, exempts from publick Business, to pass their Hours in imitating Fruits and Flowers, and transplanting all the Beauties of Nature into their own Dress, or raising a new Creation in their Closets and Apartments. How pleasing is the Amusement of walking among the Shades and Groves planted by themselves.... 12

- Joseph Addison, "Aurelia," 1714.

89).

By plucking her petals, You do not gather the beauty of the flower.

- Rabindrath Tagore

89a)

To build, to plant, whatever you intend,  
To rear the Column, or the Arch to bend,  
To swell the Terras, or to sink the Grot;  
In all, let Nature never be forgot.

- Pope

90).

I cannot believe that the inscrutable universe turns on an axis of suffering; surely the strange beauty of the world must somewhere rest on pure joy!

- Louise Bogan

91).

A hypothetical gateway to an academy of Mars.

91).

Beauty is momentary in the mind -  
The fitful tracing of a portal;  
But in the flesh it is immortal.  
The Body dies; the body's beauty lives.  
So evenings die, in their green going,  
A wave, interminably flowing.  
So gardens die, their meek breath scenting  
The cowl of Winter, done repenting.

- Wallace Stevens, 1879-1955, *Peter Quince and the Clavier*

92).

God created the world out of the four elements, to glorify His name. He strengthened the world with the wind. He connected the world to the stars. And he filled the world with all kinds of creatures. He then put human beings throughout the world, giving them great power as stewards of all Creation. Human beings cannot live without the rest of nature, they must care for all natural things.

- Hildegard of Bingen

93).

It has been the office of art to educate the perception of beauty. We are immersed in beauty but our eyes have no clear vision.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

94).

Remember that the most beautiful things in the world are the most useless; peacocks and lilies, for example.

- John Ruskin, *The Stones of Venice*

95).

Art consists of limitation. The most beautiful part of every picture is the frame.

- G. K. Chesterton



96).

Good planting design does not follow a formula. At best, it allows you to experiment with nature and through nature to make an original statement. As in all of the arts, the best garden designers take risks. Only by taking risks can you come up with something exciting and original.

- James Van Sweden

97).

Beauty is like summer fruits which are easy to corrupt and cannot last.

- Frances Bacon

98).

What we call yugen lies within the mind and cannot be expressed in words. Its quality may be suggested by the sight of a gauzy cloudveiling the moon or by the autumnal mists swathing the scarlet leaves on a mountainside. If one is asked where yugen can be found in these sights, one cannot say; a man who cannot understand this truth is quite likely to prefer the sight of the moon shining brightly in a cloudless sky. It is quite impossible to explain wherein lies the interest or wonder of yugen.

- Shotetsu, in Donald Keene's *No: The Classical Theatre of Japan*.

99).

Texture and foliage keep a garden interesting through the season.

Flowers are just moments of gratification.

- Kevin Doyle

100).

My soul can find no staircase to Heaven unless it be through Earth's loveliness.

- Michelangelo Buonardo

101).

The garden must first be prepared in the soul first or else it will not flourish.

- Proverb from England

101a)

You are still alive

I will pull down the blinds

And sleep in this easy chair for a thousand years

You were slaughtered, but your ghost is eternally young

I will freeze my age

In the heated sleep with you

The blinds down, the room

Turns into the garden with trees thriving

The summer in the garden is eternal.

102).

The Japanese garden is a very important tool in Japanese architectural design because, not only is a garden traditionally included in any house design, the garden itself also reflects a deeper set of cultural meanings and traditions.

Whereas the English garden seeks to make only an aesthetic impression, the Japanese garden is both aesthetic and reflective. The most basic element of any Japanese garden design comes from the realization that every detail has a significant value.

- Elizabeth Barber, *The Shiga Project: The Japanese Garden*

102a)

First follow Nature, and your judgement frame

By her just standard, which is still the same:

Unerring NATURE, still divinely bright, One clear, unchang'd, and universal light, .....

Those Rules of old discover'd, not devis'd,

Are Nature still, but Nature Methodiz'd;

Nature, like Liberty, is but restrain'd

By the same Laws which first herself ordain'd.

- Pope, *Essay on Criticism*

103)

Gardens are the result of a collaboration between art and nature.

- Penelope Hobhouse

103a)

Et in Arcadia Ego,

104).

If delight may provoke men's labour, what greater delights is there then to behold the earth as apparelled with plants, as with a robe of imbroidered worke, set with orient pearles, and garnished with great diversitie of rare and costly jewels? . . . The delight is great but the use greater, and joynd often with necessitie.

- John Gerarde

104a).

"the hidden gold/ At the heart of this odd

decadent labyrinth," where

Two young men holding each other in the inn's

stable straw

Under their soiled underwear, become armored

Roman soldiers

Become one shining flesh.

- Takahashi

105).

If the art of gardening is at last to turn back from her extravagances and rest with her other sisters, it is, above everything, necessary to have clearly before you what you require . . . It is certainly tasteless and inconsistent to desire to encompass the world with a garden-wall, but very practicable and reasonable to make a garden . . . into a characteristic whole to the eye, heart, and understanding alike.

- Schiller

105a).

Still other harsh and frightfull objects be

Which not a little grace a Country-Seat,

If only brought within the Bounds of Sight.

Deep rapid Rivers, wide extended Lakes,

High tow'ring Rocks and noisy Cataracts

Sir John Clerk of Penicuik, near Edinburgh, *The Country Seat*, 1727

106).

In his garden every man may be his own artist without apology or explanation. Each within his green enclosure is a creator, and no two shall reach the same conclusion; nor shall we, any more than other creative workers, be ever wholly satisfied with our accomplishment. Ever a season ahead of us floats the vision of perfection and herein lies its perennial charm.

- Louise Beebe Wilder

107).

Let me define a garden as the meeting of raw nature and the human imagination in which both seek the fulfillment of their beauty. Every sign indicates that nature wants us and wishes for collaboration with us, just as we long for nature to be fulfilled in us. If our original state was to live in a garden, as Adam and Eve did, then a garden signals our absolute origins as well as our condition of eternity, while life outside the garden is time and temporality.

- Thomas Moore, *The Re-Enchantment of Everyday Life*, p. 96

108).

The aesthetically literate person also knows that the artistic dimensions of existence have meaning for every sphere of human endeavor ... and that a refined aesthetic sensibility can as easily lead to a cure for cancer as to the composition of a great symphony.

- James Fenwick

109).

Nature is a revelation of God;

Art a revelation of man.

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

T

110).

The first law of a painting and of a picture on the soil is to be a whole . . . Without principles and without discernment one never attains veritable beauty.

- Edouard André

111).

On the first of May, with my comrades of the catechism class, I laid lilac, chamomile and rose before the altar of the Virgin, and returned full of pride to show my "blessed posy." My mother laughed her irreverent laugh and, looking at my bunch of flowers, which was bringing the may-bug into the sitting-room right under the lamp, she said: "D'you suppose it wasn't already blessed before?"

- Colette, *Sido*, 1922

112).

Art brings out the grand lines of nature.

- Antoine Bourdelle

To some, gardening is therapy for the mind.

Art is therapy for my soul.

- Reno

113).

If light is the medium and space is the medium, then, in a sense, the universe is a medium. I know the impracticality of it right now but when I say that the medium is the universe, that maybe the world is an art form, then the gardening of our universe or our consciousness would be the level of our art participation.

Robert Irwin

114).

In a rock garden we foster a little patch of the wilderness that stands to us for freedom.

- Jason Hill

115).

Rhythm, symmetry, and a happy combination of elegance and utility - a blend often desired in later days of hope and struggle - these have been fully attained, and with them a delight in quiet communion with Nature, expressing as she does the sense of beauty in orderliness.

- Marie Luise Gothein, *History of Garden Art*, 1928

116).

Romanticism may not inaccurately be described as a conviction that the world is an *englischer Garten* on a grand scale. The God of the seventeenth century, like its gardeners, always geometrized; the God of Romanticism was one in whose universe things grew wild and without trimming and in all the rich diversity of their natural shapes. The preference for irregularity, the aversion from that which is wholly

intellectualized ... which were eventually to invade the intellectual life of Europe at all points, made their first modern appearance on a grand scale in the eighteenth century in the form of the new fashion in pleasure gardens.

- Arthur O. Lovejoy, *The Great Chain of Being*, 1936

117).

Gardening is always more or less a warfare against nature. It is true we go over to the "other side" for a few hints, but we might as well abandon our spades and pitchforks as pretend that nature is everything and art nothing.

- James Shirley Hibberd

117a).

The rapidity and noise of the rivers should be increased by artificial bulwarks and impediments ... and the falls of water should, by the interposition of rocks, or of new streams brought over them, be made to look more like cataracts than cascades ... Wherever there is a tree remarkably large, all the other trees should be cleared out around it, and some art used to draw the eye towards it, that the spectator may be amazed.

John Dalrymple, *Essay on Landscape Gardening*, written 'about the year 1760'.

118).

Our bodies are our gardens, to which our wills are gardeners.

- William Shakespeare

119).

In garden arrangement, as in all other kinds of decorative work, one has not only to acquire a knowledge of what to do, but also to gain some wisdom in perceiving what it is well to let alone.

- Gertrude Jekyll

120).

For most of us who are intimidated by theories of garden design, the cottage garden provides immediate appeal, since it is a horticultural rather than an architectural solution to a limited area.

- Patricia Thorpe

120a).

Sometimes one is led insensibly into dark caverns, terminating unexpectedly in a landscape enriched with all that nature affords the most delicious ... Another artifice is, to obscure some capital part by trees or other interposed objects: our curiosity is raised to know what lies beyond; and after a few steps, we are greatly surprised with some scene totally different from what we expected.

Henry Home, Lord Kames, "Gardening and Architecture," *Elements of Criticism*, 1762

121).



Laying out grounds may be considered a liberal art, in some sort like poetry and painting.

- William Wordsworth

121a).

by carefully collecting and cherishing the accidental beauties of wild nature; by judiciously arranging them, and skillfully combining them with each other, and the embellishments of art; I cannot but think that the landscape gardener might produce complete and faultless compositions in nature, which would be as much superior to the imitations of them by art, as the acting of a Garrick or a Siddons is to the best representation of it in a portrait.

- Richard Payne Knight, "The Landscape," 1795.

122).

Gardening is the slowest of the performing arts.

- Anonymous

122a)

The sensual pleasure arising from viewing objects and compositions, which we call picturesque, may be felt equally by all mankind in proportion to the correctness and sensibility of their organs of sight; for it is wholly independent of their being picturesque, or after the manner of painters. But this very relation to painting, expressed by the word picturesque, is that, which affords the whole pleasure derived from association; which can, therefore, only be felt by persons, who have correspondent ideas to associate; that is, by persons in a certain degree conversant with that art.

- Richard Payne Knight, *Analytical Inquiry into the Principles of Taste*, 1805

123a).

To see a World in a Grain of Sand

And a heaven in a Wild Flower,

Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand

And Eternity in an hour.

- William Blake, *Auguries of Innocence*, 1863

124).

What a dead thing is a clock, with its ponderous embowelments of lead and brass, its pert or solemn dullness of communication, compared with the simple altar-like structure and silent heart-language of the old sundials! It stood as the garden god of Christian gardens. Why is it almost everywhere vanished? If its business-use be superseded by more elaborate inventions, its moral uses, its beauty, might have pleaded for its continuance. It spoke of moderate labours, of pleasures not protracted after sunset, of temperance, and good hours. It was the primitive clock, the horologue of the first world.

Adam could scarce have missed it in Paradise.

- Charles Lamb, *Essays*, 1823

125).

From the intimate union of art and nature, of architecture and landscape, will be born the best gardening compositions which Time, purifying public taste, now promises to bring us.

- Edouard André

126).

Although weeding, cutting back, and transplanting are activities that may seem repetitive and never-ending, when seen as a necessary and integral part of the overall unfolding of the garden scheme, they become purposeful rather than boring. In fact, what may appear on the surface to be tedious physical work may, in the actual doing, be spiritually liberating. In taking time to contemplate the small — in observing the details of our gardens — we can experience life on a manageable scale. [MANAGEABLE?!]

- Marilyn Barrett, *Creating Eden: The Garden as a Healthy Space*

127).

A fine garden being no less difficult to contrive and order well than a good building.

- A. J. Dezallier D'Argenville, *The Theory and Practice of Gardening*, 1712

128).

But who can paint Like Nature? Can imagination boast,

Amid its gay creation, hues like hers?

James Thomson, 1700-1748, *Spring*

128a).

Upon the margin of a cold bath stood the Venus de Medicis --

So stands the statue that enchants the world

“Throw her,” said he, “into the pond to hide her

nakedness, and to cool her lasciviousness.”

- Dr. Samuel Johnson, on walking through the garden

of his friend, Mr. Wilkins.

129),

Like music and art, love of nature is a common language that can transcend political or social boundaries.

- Jimmy Carter

129a).

Here Nature all uncultivated lies,

Here craggy hills in peaks terrific rise,  
Whence horrid rocks projecting seem to frown  
And every moment threaten to fall down ...  
Here caverns stretch their monstrous jaws around,  
Where rude winds whistling waft a mournful sound.  
Here bursts a cat'ract o'er a rocky steep,  
Whose falls a dreadful thundering, clamouring keep ...

Charles Lord Viscount Irwin, *The Rise and Progress of the Present Taste in Planting  
Parks, Pleasure Grounds, Gardens Etc.*, 1767.

130).

For we must bear in mind that the greater number of garden pictures known to us are taken from tombs.

- Marie Luise Gothein, *A History of Garden Art*, 1928

130a)

He separated the flower's petals, counted the pollen-laden stamens and said, again, his eyes drowned in burlesque ecstasy: Look, milady! One . . . two ... five . . . ten . . . twenty. . . . Look how they're quivering! Look! . . . Sometimes it requires twenty males to produce the spasm of a single female!

- Octave Mirbeau, *The Torture Garden*, 1899.

131a)

Arma virumque cano, Troiae qui primus ab oris  
Italiam fato profugus Laviniaque venit  
litora, multum ille et terris iactatus et alto  
vi superum, saevae memorem Iunonis ob iram,

multa quoque et bello passus, dum conderet urbem  
inferretque deos Latio; genus unde  
Albanique patres atque altae moenia Romae.

Virgil

131b)

Whores, and the Dame I sing, who first inspires  
The thrilling Virgin with unhallow'd fire.  
Say, lovely Goddess, why's mankind so curst  
That Cull the second, pays like Cull the first?  
Venus declare, for you alone can tell  
Why lust drives Virtue from the hallow'd cell?  
Love's lovely Goddess from the Ocean spring,  
So greater fools them Hesiod whilom sing:  
But where's no matter, she's a wanton girl.  
- Edwin Thompson, *The Temple of Venus*, 1763.

131).

As rambling waves the earth beneath us shake,  
In vain we try the torrent to explore,  
That rolls along with loud tremendous rore ...

- Charles Lord Viscount Irwin, *The Rise and Progress of the Present Taste in Planting  
Parks, Pleasure Grounds, Gardens Etc.*, 1767.

131a).

A stranger here

Strange things doth meet, strange glories see;

Strange treasures lodged in this fair world appear,

Strange all, and new to me.

But that they mine should be, who nothing was,

That strangest is of all, yet brought to pass.

- Thomas Traherne (1637-1674) *The Salutation*

132).

At length a darksome cave impedes our way,

We enter quick, impatient for the day;

When lo! a prospect opens to our view,

Richer than ever Poet feign'd, or Painter drew.

Beneath the Grove the torrent rolls conceal'd

To raise surprize, and be with joy reveal'd.

Behold the streams in one tumultuous rage,

Down dashing headlong pointed rocks engage,

Here foaming flash around their sparkling spray ...

- Charles Lord Viscount Irwin, *The Rise and Progress of the Present Taste in Planting Parks, Pleasure Grounds, Gardens Etc.*, 1767.

132a).

Belladonna: In Italian, a beautiful lady; in English a deadly poison.

-Ambrose Bierce, *The Devil's Dictionary*

133).

...trees are ordered, paths are straightened, and a visible form is imposed. A person always knows where he is in such a place. He sees it from above, as it were. He will never become lost while taking a stroll because he, the lord of creation, has himself made the garden.

- Teiji Ito, *The Japanese Garden: an Approach to Nature*

134).

For myself I hold no preferences among flowers, so long as they are wild, free, spontaneous. Bricks to all greenhouses! Black thumb and cutworm to the potted plant!

- Edward Abbey

135).

Should it not be remembered that in setting a garden we are painting - a picture of hundreds of feet or yards instead of so many inches, painted with living flowers and seen by open daylight - so that to paint it rightly is a debt that we owe to the beauty of flowers and to the light of the sun.

- William Robinson, *The English Flower Garden and Home Grounds*, 1883

136).

The Romans, those practical pupils of the Greeks, have left us in their literature an early example of this use of boxwood hedges to impose unity on the chaotic natural landscape. The example is provided by Pliny the Younger (General Letters, Part VII, Letter LII, To Domitius Apollinaris), describing the garden design of his own estate in Tuscany. Pliny speaks of trimmed boxwood hedges expertly deployed to partition off segments of the landscape in a precise manner. In addition, boxwood was sculpted into topiaries depicting animals -- a further assertion of mastery over nature (turning a plant into an animal, as it were!).

136a).

Thus (where the intrusive Pile, ill-graced  
With baubles of theatric taste,  
O'erlooks the torrent breathing showers  
On motley bands of alien flowers  
In stiff confusion set or sown,  
Till nature cannot find her own,  
Or keep a remnant of the sod  
Which Caledonian Heroes trod)  
I mused; and, thirsting for redress,  
Recoiled into the wilderness.

- William Wordsworth, *Effusion in the Pleasure Grounds on the Banks of the Braan*.

137).

The large parterres or beds were laid out along strictly geometrical lines. The regularity imposed on the disorder of nature demonstrated the King's power to impose his will on his vast domain.

138).

You will find that my compositions in gardening are altogether after the Pindaric manner, and run into the beautiful wildness of Nature without affecting the nicer elegancies of art.

- Addison



138).

Here is one spot where each may experience "the romance of possibility."

- Louise Beebe Wilder

139).

Poet: gardener of epitaphs.

- Octavio Paz, Return, 1975

139a).

Would then my noble master please

To grant my highest wishes?

He'll shade my banks wi' tow'ring trees

And bonie spreading bushes.

Delighted doubly then, my Lord

You'll wander on my banks,

And listen mony a grateful bird

Return You Tuneful thanks.

139b).

Let lofty firs and ashes cool

My lowly banks o'erspread,

And view, deep-bending in the pool

Their shadows' wat'ry bed:

Let fragrant birks in woodbines drest

My craggy cliffs adorn;

And for the little songster's nest

The close embow'ring thorn.

Robert Burns, *Humble Petition of the Bruar Water to the Noble Duke of Athole*.

140).

We use our gardens as a refuge, much as a painter uses canvas, as an area to be created according to our own suitably reassuring, aesthetic taste.

Henry H. Cabot, Chairman of the Garden Conservancy, 1999

141).

In Renaissance Europe, gardens reflected confidence in human ability to impose order on the external world

142).

Gardens unite artificial and natural beauty, embracing all the natural elements - water, light, air, growth - and making them elements of art. Every effort devoted to garden design becomes a mirror of the longing for happiness in harmony with nature.

- Carl F. Schroer

143).

In the garden, humans imitate not only the outward appearance of nature, but also its underlying order.

144).

I choose a block of marble and chop off whatever I don't need.

- Francois-Auguste Rodin (1840-1917), sculptor

145).

At the heart of gardening and landscape design was a desire to impose order on the landscape. The underlying order is rendered more perfect by the cultivation of trees and plants and the addition of sculpture, ornaments, water features, mounds and grottoes.

145a)

But when I crept with leaves to hide

Those parts, which maids keep unespied,

Such leetings I least had ere I took,

That with the fancy I awoke;

And found (Ah me!) this flesh of mine

More like a Stock, than like a Vine.

- Robert Herrick

145a).

What shall we say to whole acres of artificial shrubbery, and exotic trees among rocks and dashing torrents, with their own wild wood in sight - where we have the whole contents of the nurseryman's catalogue jumbled together - colour at war with colour, and form with form ?- among the most peaceful subjects of Nature's kingdom, everywhere discord, distraction and bewilderment !

- William Wordsworth, *Guide through the District of the Lakes*

146).

There is no spot of ground, however arid, bare or ugly, that cannot be tamed into such a state as may give an impression of beauty and delight.

- Gertrude Jekyll

146a).

We walked to the falls of Bruar, first brought to notice by Burns, and then too much made of, as besides planting the banks and conducting a path up the stream, so many summer houses and hermitages and peep-bo places of one sort or another had been planted on favourite situations that the proper character of the wild torrent was completely lost. Nature was much disturbed, but no ill-taste could destroy so grand a scene.

- Elizabeth Grant of Rothiemurchus

147).

For an estate, the garden, according to Alberti, is just as important as the house, and the same geometric principles should be employed in designing the garden and the house.

148).

I have left almost to the last the magic of water, an element which owing to its changefulness of form and mood and colour and to the vast range of its effects is ever the principal source of landscape beauty, and has like music a mysterious influence over the mind.

- Sir George Sitwell, *On the Making of Gardens*, 1909

148a)

Osterley, or Oysterley, the house nowe of the Ladie Gresham's, a faire and stately building of bricke, erected by Sir Thomas Gresham, knight, citizen and merchant-adventurer of London, and finished about anno 1577. It standeth in a parke by him also impaled, well wooded, and garnished with manie faire ponds, which afforded not onely fish, and fowle, as swanes, and other water fowle; but also great use for milles, as p aper-milles, oyle-milles, and corne-milles ..

.

- John Norden

148b\_

The garden pool at Osterley, was said to be furnished “with neatly made fishes, frogs etc. swimming in the fountain as if they were alive,” and there is a “stream of water cheerfully running out of a little hill which is handsomely furnished with all sorts of neatly made animals and little men as though they were alive.”

149)

In all places where there is a Summer and a Winter, and where your Gardens of pleasure are sometimes clothed with their verdant garments, and bespangled with variety of Flowers, and at other times wholly dismantled of all these; here to recompense the loss of past pleasures, and to buoy up their hopes of another Spring, many have placed in their Gardens, Statues, and Figures of several Animals, and great variety of other curious pieces of Workmanship, that their walks might be pleasant at any time in those places of never dying pleasures.

- John Worlidge, *Systema Horticulturae*, 1677

150).

According to Guilieglmo da Ebreo music and dance reveal the order of the heavens. Likewise the order of gardens expresses the cosmic harmonies. Thus it is imperative to create bilateral symmetry, using central paths that bisect each other at right angles, the trees planted in straight lines, and the geometry of all compartments, all of which created a strong rectilinear character.

151).

I need not print a line, nor conjure with the painter's tools to prove myself an artist ... Whilst in other spheres of labor the greater part of our life's toil and moil will of a surety end, as the wise man predicted, in vanity and vexation of spirit, here is instant physical refreshment in the work the garden entails, and, in the end, our labor will be crowned with flowers.

- John Sedding, 1893

151a)

The Moravian nobleman Baron Waldstein visited Theobald estate in 1600 and wrote: “An outstanding feature is a delightful and most beautifully made ornamental pool (at present dry,

but previously supplied with water from 2 miles away): it is approached by 24 steps leading up to it. The water was brought up to this height by lead Pipes and it flowed into the pool through the mouths of two serpents. In two of the corners of this pool you can see two wooden water-mills built on a rock, just as if they were on the shores of a river... A space beside the pool houses white marble statues of the 12 Roman Emperors

152).

Nature is painting for us, day after day, pictures of infinite beauty.

- James Russell Lowell

153).

Today the art of gardening is practised much more often than any other, in ignorant, impulsive ways, by people who never stop to think that it is an art at all.

- M.G. Van Rensselaer

154).

On Design: "The battle of the Werkbund ... is to produce a new masculinist reason." Karl Scheffler

155).

To conquer a piece of earth and make it as beautiful as one can dream of it being: That is art, too. A man cannot be separated from the earth. I come out of the garden every day feeling, oh, inspired in a way that one needs in order to convert the daily-ness of the life into something greater than that little life itself.

- Stanley Kunitz

156).

The garden is not about nature but is rather a transformation of nature.

- Ian Hamilton Findlay

157).

Form follows function.

- Louis Henri Sullivan

157a)

And above the rest is especially to be noated with what industrie and toyle of man, the garden have been raised, levelled, and formed out of a most craggye and unfitable lande now framed a most pleasante, sweete, and princely place, with divers walks, many ascendings and descendings, replenished also with manie delightful Trees of Fruite, artificially composed Arbors, and a Destilling House on the west end of the same gardens, over which is a Ponde of Water, broughte by conduite pypes, out of the feyld adjoyninge on the west, quarter of a myle from the same house.

- John Norden, 1591.

158).

Form is never more than an extension of content.

- Robert Creeley, 1974

158a).

Bring back the birch.

- Ian Hamilton Findlay

159).

I see humanity now as one vast plant, needing for its highest fulfillment only love, the natural blessings of the great outdoors, and intelligent crossing and selection. In the span of my own lifetime I have observed such wondrous progress in plant evolution that I look forward optimistically to a healthy, happy world as soon as its children are taught the principles of simple and rational living. We must return to nature and nature's god.

- Luther Burbank, 1849-1926 a plant breeder, botanist, and free thinker.

160).

There is something in us that loves symmetry, selection, arrangement, as well as wildness and irregularity. A small garden, accordingly, gives its owner a far greater opportunity to express himself than a small lawn. The usual lawn expresses nothing so much a vacancy of mind or an impious waste of good material; whereas in a garden any man may be an artist, may experiment with all the subtleties or simplicities of line, mass, color, and composition, and taste the god-like joys of the creator.

- H. G. Dwight, Gardens and Gardening, *Atlantic Monthly*, 1912

160a)

The ground to be inclosed square with a bricke wall, and frute trees plashed upon it; on the owt side of it to sett fayre strait birches on 2 sides and lyme trees on 2 sides, some x foote distante from the wall, so that the wall may hide most of the shaft of the tree and onely the tufts appear above.

- Sir Francis Bacon, on his garden design.

161).

The garden is a product of mind. Nature has no interest in the garden.

- Ian Hamilton Findlay

162).

All the ground within this wauk to be cast into a laque, with a fayre raile with Images gilt round about it and some low flowers specially violets and strawberries along qu. Then a fayre hedg of Tymber worke till it towch the water, with some glasses colored hear and there for the ey.

In ye Middle of the laque where the howse now stands to make an lland of 100 broad; An in the Middle thereof to build a howse for freshnes with an upper galery open upon the water, a tarace



above that, and a supping roome open under that; a dynyng roome, a bedd chamber, a Cabanett, and a Roome for Musike, a garden; In this Grownd to make one wauk between trees; The galleries to cost Northwards; Nothing to be planted hear but of choyse.

- Sir Francis Bacon, instructions for creating his garden

162a).

The garden reconciles human art and wild nature, hard work and deep pleasure, spiritual practice and the material world. It is a magical place because it is not divided. The many divisions and polarizations that terrorize a disenchanted world find peaceful accord among mossy rock walls, rough stone paths, and trimmed bushes. Maybe a garden sometimes seems fragile, for all its earth and labor, because it achieves such an extraordinary delicate balance of nature and human life, naturalness and artificiality. It has its own liminality, its point of balance between great extremes.

- Thomas Moore, *The Re-Enchantment of Everyday Life*

162b)

The figures of the Ponds were thus: they were pitched at the bottomes with pebbles of several colours, which were work't in to several figures, as of Fishes, etc., which in his Lordship's time were plainly to be seen through the cleare water, now over-grown with Flagges and rushes. If a poore bodie had brought his Lordship half a dozen pebbles of a Curious colour, he would give them a shilling, so curious was he in perfecting his Fish-ponds, which guesse doe containe four acres. In the middle of the middlemost pond, in the Island is a curious banquetting-house of Romana rchitecture, paved with black and white marble; covered with Cornish slatt, and neatly wainscotted.

- John Aubrey, of Verlum House, Gorhambury, Francis Bacon's manor.

163).

Over fertilized plants may be beautiful but are otherwise useless, like people whose energies are devoted so completely to their appearance that there is no other development.

- William Longgood

164),

"The gardens that I created myself...shall express a spirit of America, and therefore shall be free of foreign character as far as possible. The Latin and the Oriental...creep more and more over our land, coming from the South, which is settled by Latin people, and also from other centers of mixed masses of immigrants. The Germanic character of our race, of our cities and settlements, [has been] overgrown by foreign character. Latin spirit has spoiled a lot, and still spoils things every day." Jens Jensen, Nazi Landscape Architect

164).

To affect the quality of the day, that is the highest of arts.

- Henry David Thoreau

164a)

The upper part of the uppermost dore on the East side had inserted into it a large Looking-glasse, with which the Stranger was very gratefully deceived, for (after he had been entertained a pretty while, with the prospects of the Ponds, Walks, and countrey, which this dore faced) when you were about to returne in to the roome, one would have sworn primo intuit that he had beheld another Prospect through the Howse: for, as soon as the Straunger was landed on the Balconie, the Conserge that shewed the howse would shut the dore to putt this fallacy on him with the Looking-glasse. This was his Lordship's Summer-howse: for he says (in his essay) one should have seates for Summer and Winter as well as Cloathes.

- John Aubrey, on Verlum House, Sir Francis Bacon's estate.

165).

Nature, as the source of a manifestation of a contingent will that cannot be known to us, is a source of terror.

- Ian Hamilton Findlay

But where only a free play of our presentational powers is to be sustained as in the case of pleasure gardens, room decoration, all sorts of useful utensils, and so on, any regularity that has an air of constraint is to be avoided as much as possible. That is why the English taste in gardens, or the baroque taste in furniture, carries the imagination's freedom very far, even to the verge of the grotesque, because it is precisely this divorce from any constraint of a rule that the case is posited where taste can show its greatest perfection in designs made by the imagination.

- Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Aesthetic Judgment*, 1790, Part I, 22

167).

There is nothing more difficult for a truly creative painter than to paint a rose, because before he can do so he has first to forget all the roses that were ever painted.

- Henri Matisse

168).

Garden-making, an activity of art and war, is a kind of work. Yet because such work is not subsumed by utility it is as well a transformational principle at play. The work of the garden is the cultural work of the trope.

- Ian Hamilton Findlay.

169).

When nations grow old, the arts grow cold

and commerce settles on every tree.

- William Blake

170).

Disposing his like his armies in regular ordination, the King of Persia came to be known as the splendid and regular planter.

171).

"It seemed to my friend that the creation of a landscape-garden offered to the proper muse the most magnificent of opportunities. Here indeed was the fairest field for the display of the imagination, in the endless combining of forms of novel beauty."

- Poe

172).

The imitation of nature is an attempt to master terror. Art and war are imitations of nature: the first an imitation of nature's making, the second an imitation of nature's destruction.

- Ian Hamilton Findlay

173).

It began in mystery, and it will end in mystery, but what a savage and beautiful country lies in between.

- Diane Ackerman

174).

The cosmos is divine.

The earth is sacred.

175).

I am returned from Scotland charmed with my expedition; it is of the Highlands I speak; the Lowlands are worth seeing once, but the mountains are ecstatic, and ought to be visited in pilgrimage once a year. None but those monstrous creatures of God know how to join so much beauty with so much horror. A fig for your poets, painters, gardeners and clergymen, that have

not been among them; their imagination can be made up of nothing but bowling greens, flowering shrubs, horse-ponds, Fleet ditches, shell grottoes and Chinese rails.

From a letter by Thomas Gray, written after his tour to Scotland in 1765, to his friend William Mason, a practical gardener whose work is seen by many as having anticipated the 'Reptonian' picturesque

176)

*Adam's Garden: A Meditation of Thankfulness and praises unto the Lord, for the returne and restore of Adam and his posteritie: planted as flowers in a garden, and published by a Gentleman, long exercised, and happilie trained in the schoole of Gods afflictions*