

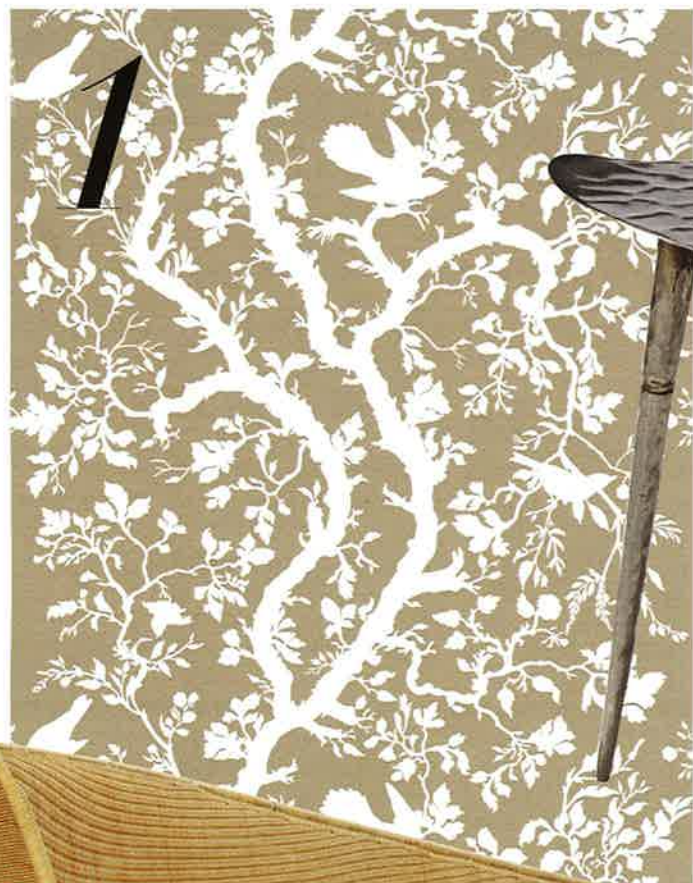
SFC&G

San Francisco Cottages and Gardens

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VERDANT
LIVING

OUT OF THE WOODS...



1 Timorous Beasties's Birdbranch fabric instantly imbues any space with harmony. Hand-printed on linen, it features whimsical birds perched upon stretching branches. *Timorous Beasties, price upon request, through De Sousa Hughes (T), SFDC, 415-626-6883, desousabugbes.com.*



2 Gregorius | Pineo's manta-like Agadir side table is crafted of hand-forged iron. At 20 inches tall, this petite table floats elegantly anywhere in a room. *Price upon request, through Kneedler | Fauchère (T), SFDC, 415-487-6180, kneedlerfauchere.com.*



3 Oakland designer Jacob May handcrafts his End-Grain butcher blocks of walnut or white oak, and finishes them with food-grade mineral oil and organic beeswax. *\$300-\$500, through Maker and Moss, 415-928-1287, makerandmoss.com.*

4 The new "naturelle" version of Christian Liaigre's Bazane Stool gives the classic piece a lighter look and feel. The natural hair-on-hide Cavallino leather seat is slung on an open grain oak base. *Price upon request, through De Sousa Hughes (T), SFDC, 415-626-6883, desousabugbes.com.*



5 Janus et Cie's Fibonacci collection, designed by architectural partners Michael Gabellini and Kimberly Sheppard, boasts an organic fluidity of movement. Perfectly molded for lounging, the Avanda Recamier Sofa is crafted with a powder-coated steel frame and topped with Janus et Cie's signature outdoor fiber. *\$6,365, Janus et Cie (T), SFDC, 415-551-7800, janusetcie.com.*





THERE'S A HISTORICAL COMPLEXITY THAT underlies Andrea Cochran's cool modernism. "When I was in my twenties, I toured the Villa Giulia outside of Rome," says Cochran, "and the principles of its Renaissance garden—beauty derived from order; visual enticements guiding the eye from one space to another; discovery; the notion of surprise—have been foundational to the work I've done ever since." These influences can be seen playing out in environments designed by her award-winning, eponymous San Francisco firm, whose landscapes are noted for their intelligent, elegant formalism.

Cochran most recently applied those principles to transform the unstructured grounds of an Atherton residence into a sublime formal garden. On the first visit to the home, designer and her associate, Emily Rylander, were confronted with a sloping terrain where random patches of hedge, a conventional lawn, an unused playhouse, a brick patio and a painted wood trellis were all held hostage by a circular driveway. "Everything leapt out at you," says Cochran. "There was no 'there' there."

In collaboration with the homeowner, who played a pivotal role in the garden's design and installation, she began bringing order to chaos through spatial organization. Cochran designed a rectangular series—a 55-foot-long pool, a 125-foot-long play lawn and an allée of linden trees—to de-emphasize the house's irregular footprint. "I'm a formalist at heart, but it's never a question of taming nature; it's a question of coaxing it," she explains. The result is a series of handsomely proportioned, plein-air living spaces with intriguing vistas that beckon from every direction.

Through boxwood hedges and low, limestone walls, one gets a teasing first



At Nature's Table Sutherland's Peninsula dining table and chairs in teak; the table features a textured powder-coat aluminum base. **Room Without A Roof** (OPPOSITE PAGE) Cochran's architectural aesthetic gives exterior spaces a sense of enclosure. See *Resources*.





The sense of privacy, presence of water, and interplay between sunshine and shadow give the pool cottage its own special character





POETIC PERCH On the hilltop, the couple envisioned a writer's retreat and a place for al-fresco entertaining, which they named the Ahwahnee after the legendary National Park Service lodge in Yosemite. The bay in the Poet's Room (ABOVE) opens onto a shaded porch.

carpet of lawn to a vista of mountains and valleys beyond, framed by the al-fresco dining area to the right, and the Poet's Room at left. The flagstone-paved dining area features over-scaled pergola members supported by four "board-and-batten order" piers; the Poet's Room—created in collaboration with interior designer Agnes Bourne—is dominated by a Bernard Maybeck inspired tapering poured-in-place concrete fireplace on axis with a broad bay window and rising some fifteen feet to a peaked, robustly cedar paneled ceiling.

The pool cottage offers a contrastingly intimate, enclosed experience. While the architectural language is similar to the Ahwahnee's, the relationship between the interior and exterior spaces is quite different, with the structure adjoining and opening onto the pool area, and the pergola, deployed in a modified L-shape, uniting the two zones. Similarly, the small one-bedroom cottage shares the simple, carefully wrought details of its

hilltop companion, but, instead of the rich reds and natural wood tones of the Ahwahnee, the interior is almost pure white as a quiet backdrop for the pool. The sense of privacy, presence of water, and interplay between sunshine and shadow give the pool cottage its own special character.

This project afforded an unusual opportunity: to use familiar compositional elements and deploy them in different combinations, at multiple scales, and with varying degrees of emphasis, across five distinct structures: board-and-batten, corrugated metal, articulated pillars and trellises, as well as specific colors and materials, all working together to bring continuity to a multiplicity of experiences. This continuity, moreover, extends to all of the work we have designed for this client. As they move from place to place, everything remains comfortable and familiar—the circumstances may change, but the two are always at home. ✨

—Grant Marani, partner