



# reclaiming ground

AG GARDENS ART

January-May 2010

[www.ag.auburn.edu/ArtinAg](http://www.ag.auburn.edu/ArtinAg)

## exhibition

Jan. 18-Feb. 26 *Agriitecture*

## lectures

Jan. 19 *The End of Land Art*

Feb. 2 *Environmental Restoration*

Feb. 11 *Arnegarden*

Feb. 18 *Designing to Enable*

March 23 *Welcoming the Wild*

April 19 *Garden in the Kindergarten*

## discussion

April 7 *Digging Deeper*

## workshops

Spring 2010 *Common Ground*



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AG GARDENS ART

All events are free and open to the public.

**Biggin Gallery Hours:**  
Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 4 PM or by appointment.  
Biggin Gallery is wheelchair accessible.

**Sponsored by:**  
College of Agriculture  
College of Liberal Arts  
Department of Art

**In conjunction with:**  
College of Architecture, Design and Construction  
Department of Horticulture

This program/project has been made possible by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Support also has been provided by the AU Women's Studies Program, the Department of Philosophy, and the Office of Undergraduate Studies Special Lectures Program.

**For more information contact:**  
The College of Agriculture at (334) 844-5887  
The Department of Art at (334) 844-4373  
www.ag.auburn.edu/ArtinAg/

Please join the College of Agriculture, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Department of Art at Auburn University as we continue to explore the intersections of art, culture, ecology, and sustainability through our 2010 focus on gardens.

Over the last decade, gardens and food have emerged as hot topics in local communities and on college campuses across America. Concerns over climate change, food security and safety, energy independence, social justice, and public health have led to a growing interest in alternative food production and sustainable landscape design. These concerns have also spurred a re-evaluation of the function, design, and aesthetics of the landscape and a revival in private and community gardens.

Artists and scholars who work on the interdisciplinary ground shared by the fields of art, art history, landscape architecture, horticulture, and agronomy will examine and question how we might reclaim our own relationships with our food, community, and environment through one of Alabama's popular pastimes—gardening.

Please visit our Web site at [www.ag.auburn.edu/ArtinAg/](http://www.ag.auburn.edu/ArtinAg/) for up-to-date information about the events listed on the right.

## EVENTS

### exhibition Jan. 18 - Feb. 26

*Agriecture*

Biggin Gallery, 101 Biggin Hall

What does the Chia Pet™ have to do with sustainable living? Can grain crops be an art form? Jeff Schmuki, visiting artist in the Auburn University Department of Art, challenges viewers both to confront and to collaborate on these and other issues in *Agriecture*.

### lecture Jan. 19

*The End of Land Art*

5:00 PM (CST)\*, 005 Biggin Hall

Land Art—what is it, when did it develop, and how has it evolved in the contemporary U.S.? Art historian Kelly Wacker lays the groundwork for understanding the progression of the Land Art movement. A reception will follow the lecture.

### lecture Feb. 2

*Artistic Imagination + Habitat Devastation =  
Environmental Restoration*

5:00 PM (CST), 005 Biggin Hall

How would you portray Mother Nature? Is she fertile, nurturing, and healthy? Or is she frail and tarnished, in need of restoration? Writer, curator, educator, and artist Linda Weintraub looks at pioneering efforts of artists who are redefining art for an age characterized by widespread environmental concerns. A reception will follow the lecture.

### lecture Feb. 11

*Armegardden*

5:00 PM (CST), 005 Biggin Hall

Can art help create a sustainable future? How can community, empowerment, and environmental education counter environmental degradation? Jeff Schmuki discusses ecology, sustainability, and a do-it-yourself philosophy as evidenced in his exhibit, *Agriecture*. A reception will follow the lecture.

### lecture Feb. 18

*Designing to Enable: A Case for Civic Agriculture and  
a Culture of Resistance*

5:00 PM (CST), 005 Biggin Hall

How can a university encourage its students to become involved in their community? What is the social network that makes community gardens sustainable? Matthew Groshek—assistant professor, Herron School of Art and Design, IUPUI—provides insights based on his work with his campus administration to create an on-campus community garden. A reception will follow the lecture.

### lecture March 23

*Welcoming the Wild*

7:00 (CDT)\*, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art

What is the role of the artist and designer in society at large? Can ordinary citizens make a difference in their local ecologies? Artist, architect, gardener, and activist Fritz Haeg is known for transforming American front yards into vegetable gardens. Haeg, the spring 2010 E.T. York Distinguished Lecturer, talks about these gardens and details strategies for weaving wild activities into our existing lives.

### discussion April 7

*Digging Deeper*

5:00 PM (CDT), 112 Rouse Life Sciences Building

What happens when artists make the environment their medium? In what ways is the process of agriculture an aesthetic practice? Join moderator Katie Lamar Jackson of the College of Agriculture for an on-going interdisciplinary conversation that considers the interests shared by artists, scholars, scientists, agrarians, designers, and environmentalists. Faculty from the College of Agriculture (Department of Horticulture), the College of Liberal Arts (Department of Art), and the College of Architecture, Design and Construction (School of Landscape Architecture) dig deeper into the aesthetic, social, and environmental issues addressed by gardening.

### lecture April 19

*Garden in the Kindergarten*

4:00 (CDT), 005 Biggin Hall

Did you know that the first German kindergartens contained gardens? How has our understanding of childhood influenced places of play for children today? Join landscape architect Susan Herrington as she traces the development of gardens in kindergartens during the 19th century in Germany and their later transformation in North America.

### workshops Spring 2010

*Common Ground*

What is the common ground between art and science? How do we reclaim and reconnect with our food, community, and environment? Workshops and activities for children and adults delve into one of Alabama's most popular pastimes that blends art and agriculture—gardening. Creativity, connection, fulfillment, and transformation begin when we get our hands in the soil. For the availability of specific workshops, see [www.ag.auburn.edu/ArtinAg/](http://www.ag.auburn.edu/ArtinAg/).