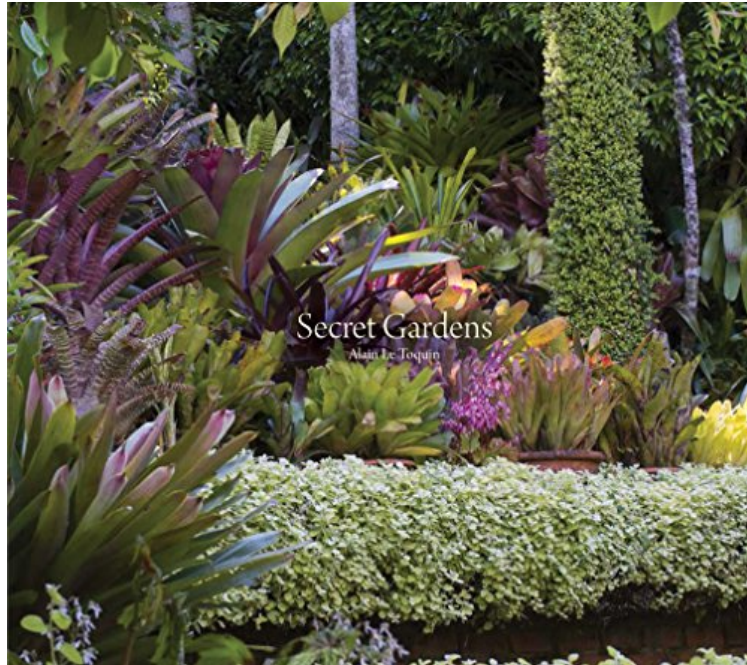


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Secret Gardens

Alain Le Toquin

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Alain Le Toquin : Secret Gardens before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Secret Gardens:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Less is MoreBy derek fellThis is proof that 'less is more' because only thirteen private gardens are featured (none from North America), and yet the coverage of each featured garden is impressive with magnificent panoramic views that help to establish a dramatic sense of place. Garden plans show the layout for each garden and interviews with each designer or owner help to explain the dynamics behind each little-known garden. My favorite is a tropical garden in the Grenadines designed by Welsh-born Timothy Vaughan, who also cultivates a private garden at his home on the Brittany coast and a nearby chateau garden called Kerdalo inherited by his wife, Isabelle that are not featured in the book. The Grenadine tropical garden is what the artist Paul Gauguin aspired to create when he moved to Tahiti to find his Garden of Eden, and Vaughan admits taking inspiration from Gauguin's paintings. Unique design ideas abound.

In *Secret Gardens*, readers experience the magic of discovering beautiful, intricately planned, and meticulously cultivated hidden worlds. More than 200 spectacular images showcase 13 private gardens, extraordinary examples of landscape design that are usually inaccessible to the public, and which have never or very rarely been featured in any publication. From France, Spain, Germany, the Caribbean, Australia, New Zealand, and more, these gardens offer a dizzying range of horticultural and conceptual diversity. The designers reflect on the steps that went into bringing the garden to life, and the book concludes with biographies of landscape architects whose work is featured within, explaining the creative vision of some of the most respected design professionals working today.

About the Author Alain Le Toquin has photographed gardens around the world for the last ten years. To date, he has visited more than 300 gardens in 23 countries on 5 continents. His photographs can be seen in *Gardens in Time*, *The Most Beautiful Gardens in the World*, and *Flowers in the World's Most Beautiful Gardens*.