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\$ 9.95 A SANDOW PUBLICATION 33>



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VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3 | DISPLAY UNTIL 10/14/13



▲ STRUCTURAL ELEMENT

Inspired by the traditional *éclat* of an Italian villa, this Lake Forest project—which encompasses a formal garden and courtyard—dictated that a strong axis be prevalent throughout its design. “Our objective was to champion the beauty and structure of the garden and merge this style with the informality of its surroundings,” says Wilmette-based landscape architect Robert Milani, who employed boxwood hedges and arborvitae to generate a vertical element. For the courtyard, Milani applied imported ancient statuary—such as the Renaissance era-inspired sculptural planter shown—and a hardscape of carved limestone, which “capture the time-honored aesthetic customarily found in Italy.” chaletnursery.com



▼ SPA ENVY

Upon designing a New American-style garden, Wadsworth-based landscape architect Derrick Blair endeavored to conceive a space that would provoke relaxation and respite. To do so, he employed a raised spa and covered the space with over 40 varieties of lush perennials and ornamental shrubs. For this project, “we needed to bridge the desires of the client to have a highly visual venue for entertaining yet provide adequate privacy,” notes Blair, who credits the cohesion of the design to the use of a wide range of materials and plantings. vanzelst.com



< garden luxury

This season, Michael Taylor Designs introduces Arcadia, a posh array of outdoor furnishings envisioned by designers Andrew Fisher and Jeffrey Weisman. Garnering inspiration from nature, Fisher and Weisman outfitted the featured lounge chair with organically shaped legs accented by hollyhock leaves. “The collection speaks to the garden setting it was designed to enhance,” notes Fisher, who adds that the generous scale and sumptuous cushioning were necessary in order to ensure an elevated level of comfort. michaeltaylor designs.com

