

THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN

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# Mansion

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Hanging out in a treehouse

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The Gold Coast gets competitive

## STAR POWER

The lure of Byron Bay's hinterland





Secret Gardens by  
Matthew Cantwell,  
New Holland  
Publishers,  
\$59.99

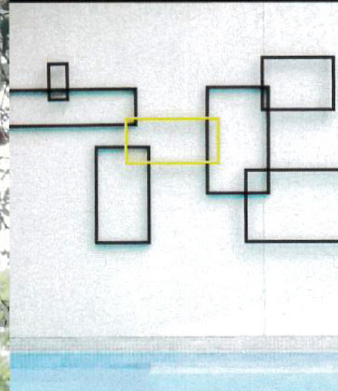
# My Style

MATTHEW CANTWELL, LANDSCAPE DESIGNER,  
SECRET GARDENS



DESIGN HEROES

Roberto  
Burle Max  
&  
Luis Barragan



**M**

My style is a little bit of LA, inspired largely by mid-century design. For this garden I used a palette of white, grey and black for the surfaces and a palette of greens in the planting design for a cooling effect.

I stumbled into this occupation having left school with no real plans and got a job working with a landscaper. I have always loved architecture and design and am passionate about plants, so it was a natural progression.

One of my first assignments at college was to design a business card for my imaginary business. I was living in the inner city and had a beautiful little courtyard billowing with pots and plants. It seemed relevant at the time and though it sounded a bit cute for my liking, the name stuck.

The most important thing to think about when planning a garden is how you intend to use it and what happens in the space with the changing seasons.

It is also important to understand how long you will stay in a house to ensure you get to reap the rewards from the planting.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY NICK CUBBIN