

Story by Susan Goracke

Photos by Kevin Launius

Rosemary and Galyn Carlile can be seen through a stand of climbing *Chusquea valdiviensis* bamboo in their 3-acre garden in the Hugo area north of Grants Pass.

Magical bamboo

Art in the Garden Tour offers chance to learn more about this amazing plant

Rosemary and Galyn Carlile's 3-acre woodland garden with its 175 species of bamboo plants can overwhelm visitors.

The couple use this display garden to educate customers of their small nursery, Grassworks Bamboo, on Russell Road near Hugo north of Grants Pass.

But the garden also is a work of art, weaving all those bamboo varieties into a natural landscape and giving customers an idea of what a species will look like as it matures.

Some varieties soar dozens of feet into the air, while others are content to hug the garden floor, almost like a ground cover.

Those who stop by the Carliles' garden during the upcoming Art in the Garden tour will find much more than bamboo varieties. This Asian-inspired garden retreat includes a variety of conifers, plus 50 different varieties of Japanese maples, ginkgos, assorted magnolias and a few

perennials to provide spring and fall color.

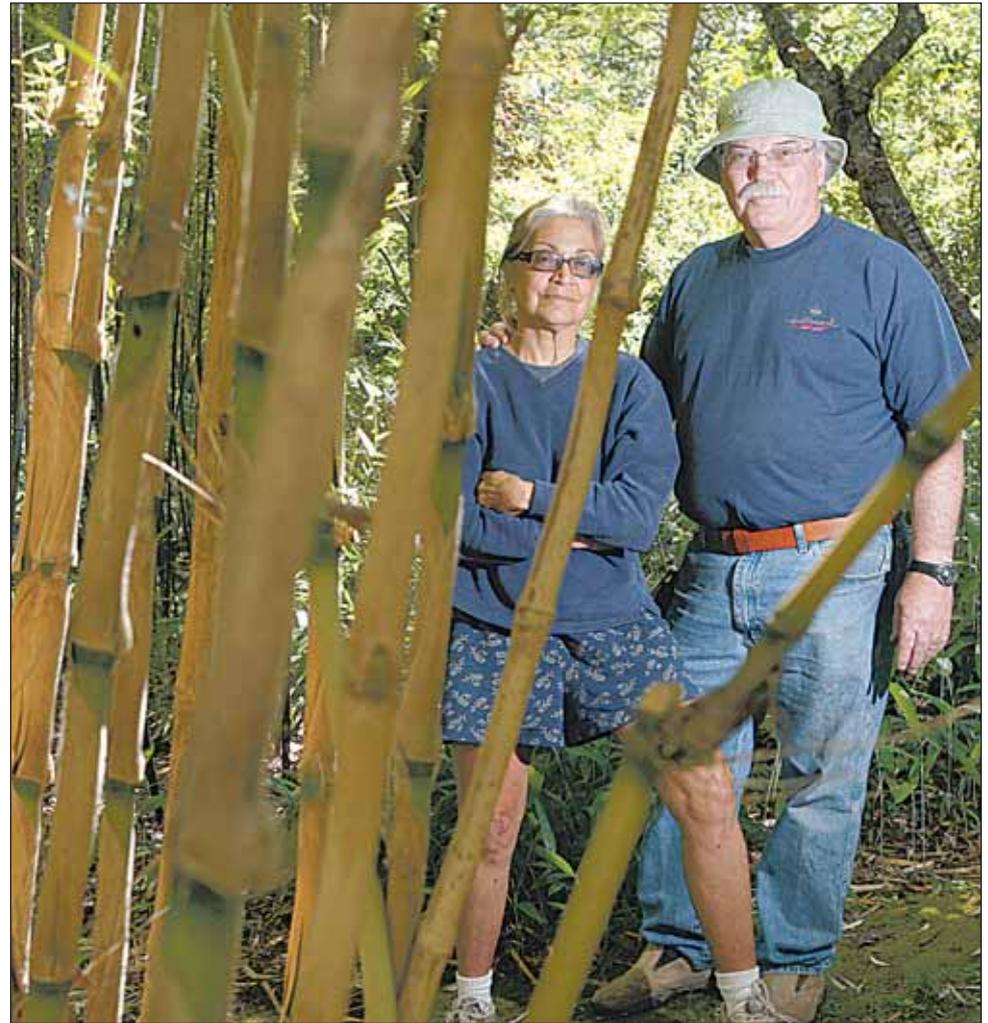
Also, amazing Asian stone sculptures from Lotus Imports in Medford can be discovered along meandering paths, and a shady clearing of lawn includes a stone bench that's perfect for relaxing and enjoying the garden's peaceful ambiance.

That stone bench elicits a laugh from Rosemary, who says the garden had no bench for years. Now that it has one, she and Galyn are usually too busy taking care of plants to sit and relax.

To appreciate the amazing transformation the Carliles' garden has undergone, it helps to know that when they bought the property 14 years ago, it was a big open space with grass and a few native oaks.

Today, with the computerized irrigation system Galyn has installed to serve 94 zones, and with Rosemary's regular applications of composted mulch, the garden is

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Above, blooming iris adds a spot of color to Galyn and Rosemary Carlile's woodland garden.



At right, the couple take a rare moment to sit on their garden bench.