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LurieGarden.org • (312) 228-1004

August 9, 2018

The Woman Behind Lurie Garden's Spring Bulb Design

Lurie Garden's spring bulb designer, Jacqueline van der Kloet, lectures about her design and her new book in time for the bulb-planting season.

The people of Chicago know the long winter is officially over when the bulbs at Lurie Garden are starting to make their appearance. Speckles of crocus first appear, braving the nips of a late frost. Soon to follow are the garden's iconic drifts of white, pink, and purple tulips.

While Piet Oudolf is considered the designer of the planted beds at Lurie Garden, in 2006, 2 years after the garden had been planted, Oudolf and the then-director, Colleen Lockovitch, discussed the need for color in the garden earlier in the year. Jacqueline van der Kloet, a friend of Oudolf and fellow Dutch garden designer, known for her bulb artistry, was asked to create a design throughout the garden that would not only bring early color but would also be harmonious with the scheme that would be blooming as the bulbs she placed would be fading.

In the garden's most widely-known feature, The Salvia River, Van der Kloet planted violet-blue crocus and grape hyacinth bulbs. The result is a sense of foreshadowing of the shades of purple that will be flowing through the exact area weeks later. Another not-so-obvious but magical element added by Van der Kloet was light. Considering the limited daylight at the beginning of spring, swaths of white tulips run along the bank of The Salvia River. When in full bloom, walks in the garden are still bright and promising as the sun sets early in the day.

Van der Kloet's visit is well timed. Most bulbs are best planted in the fall for a resulting spring display. This talk will be of interest to those who are planning their own spring displays as well as for those who look to understand the design choices that make the Lurie Garden magical all year round.

Jacqueline van der Kloet will be lecturing at the Chicago Cultural Center on August 16, 1-3pm. This event is free, but registration is required at luriegarden.org/speakers.

Assets for this release can be downloaded here: <http://bit.ly/2OXjzaY>

Web version of this release can be found here: <http://bit.ly/2McnFNT>

Find more information about Colour Your Garden here: <http://bit.ly/2vrzSon>

More information on other free Lurie Garden Programs at luriegarden.org/programs.

Lurie Garden is a beautiful urban garden designed to invite community members and visitors to experience, enjoy, and learn about nature. The garden is maintained in an ecological-friendly manner in order to provide the maximum benefit to wildlife and act as a model of green space management. Lurie Garden, located in the southeast corner of Millennium Park.

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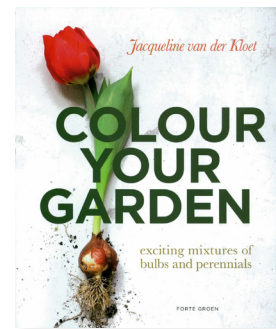
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Lurie Garden's bulb display against the Chicago Skyline.



Plant designer, Jacqueline van der Kloet lectures about her bulb design in Lurie Garden and her new book in time for bulb-planting season.



Van der Kloet's new book, "Colour Your Garden" shows you how to combine bulbs with existing plants in your garden.