

## SUN-KISSED PARADISE:

### Looking back on some great gardens of San Diego

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## SEPTEMBER 2004

Timeless prize winner

Homeowners Tom and Sheryl Cantor enlisted landscape architect Takendo Arii, well known for his design of Japanese-style gardens, for his help at their Mount Helix property — sorely in need of not only a garden, but some privacy. Arii, after careful reflection, envisioned a garden around existing fully grown Canary Island pines. Seven wide stone steps led visitors to a new roofed gate surrounded by a fence of partly solid bamboo, some lath and a trellis covered in vines and shaded by Chinese flame trees. A stream was designed to fall down the hillside to a pool stocked with turtles and koi and afloat with water lilies. Among other sublime choices, Arii filled the garden with flowering plants such as azaleas, camellias and star jasmine. He also included Japanese maples, Australian and Tasmanian tree ferns and heavenly bamboo (*Nandina domestica*). This won the Grand Prize for Gardens of the Year in 2004. ■