



Mary Effron works pots into garden beds and terraces and onto steps, top, in a Santa Monica garden.

secrets and sources

WHERE TO GO Dake • Bird Rock Tropicals in Carlsbatt for dramatic bromeliads (760-438-9393); Malibu Masonry, a more accessible soneyard where you can really see the stone (310-456-9444); a company called California Vermiculture, which produces Wormgold for worm castings (760-942-6086); "The Floracle" at Windowbox.com, for great garden advice. Glascock • Brookfield Farms, a new ornamental grass nursery in Thousand Oaks (by appointmentanly, 805-379-8708); Pusaka Collection, a West Hollywood source for Asian stonecarvings and large pots for water features (323-650-2952); Casa Mexicana, a North Hollywood source for hammered tin fountains, ironwork and Mexicarpots (818-763-3115). Furr • Wallace Soil Laboratories for soil testing (310-615-01ti); Ewing Irrigation Supply for irrigation products and information (online at evings.com); Serra Gardens for succulents (online at cacti.com). Bartos • Hortus has everything! (626-792-8255, in Pasadena; 714-532-5434, in Orange); Desert to lingle Nursery in Montebello (323-722-3976); California Cactus Center in Pastlena (626-795-2788). Kenton and Silva · Sperling Nursery in Calabasas for experadvice on new plants and plant availability (818-591-9111); Home Depot for unepected treasures (various locations); Santa Monica and Hollywood farmers makets for potted herbs and interesting plants.

INSPIRING READS Bartos • "The Modern Garden," by Jae Brown; "The Minimalist Garden," by Christopher Bradley-Hole. Furr • "A Gliaboration with Nature," "Time" and "Stone," by Andy Goldsworthy. Glascok • "Gardens for the Future: Gestures Against the Wild," by Guy Cooper and Ordon Taylor; "A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction," by Christopher Alexander, et. al. Effron • "California Gardens," by Winifred Starr Dobyns. Dke • "Outdoor Rooms," by Julie D. Taylor; "Plant Life in the World's Mediterranea Climates," by Peter R. Dallman. Kenton and Silva • "Garden Mania," by Philipe Bay and James Bolton.