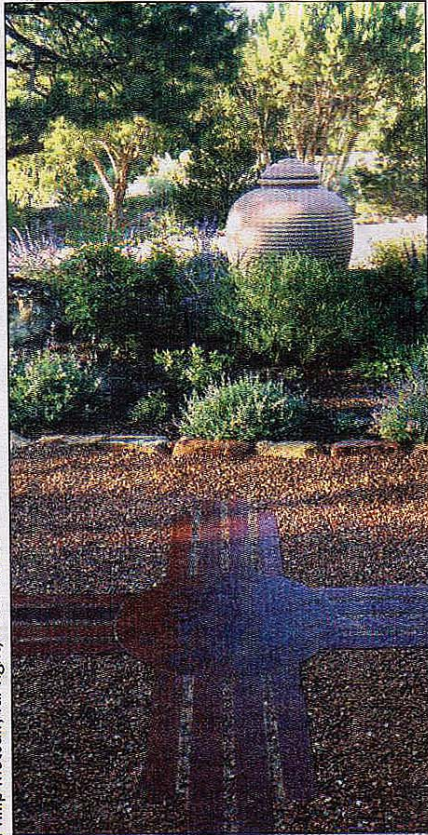
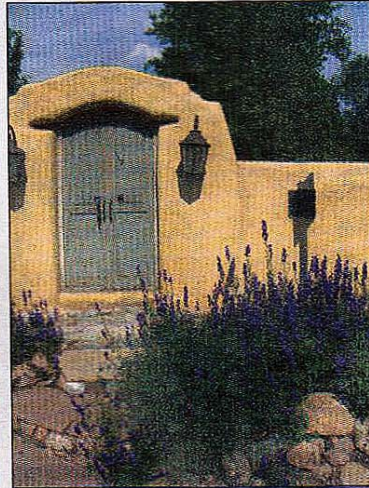


MIXED MEDIA



Philip Metcalf; far right, Peter Weiss



Above, May Night salvia at a garden featured in the 2011 Santa Fe Botanical Garden tour; left, the garden of Philip Metcalf, one of the stops in SFBG's 2012 tour

Gardens of earthly delights

The first weekend in June is a time to stop and smell the flowers, with two separate garden tours — one on Saturday, June 2, and one on Sunday, June 3. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, the third annual Eldorado Area Gardening Tour sends participants on a self-guided, educational journey through residential gardens and the Eldorado School Community Garden and Outdoor Classroom. Participants can learn about xeriscaping, cacti, native grasses, perennials, and water management, among other topics, while meeting with homeowners and master gardeners. You can begin your tour by picking up a map of the garden locations at the Eldorado Area Gardening Tour booth at La Tienda (7 Caliente Road). Additional materials including a brochure, fact sheets, seeds, and coupons are available by donation; money collected benefits Eldorado Fire and Rescue. There is no fee for the tours. Visit www.eldoradogardeningtour.com or call 505-510-1231.

The Santa Fe Botanical Garden begins the first of two spring garden tours on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. (the second takes place the following Sunday, June 10, during the same hours). The theme of the June 3 tour is “The Iconic Eastside.” Participants can visit five locations in Santa Fe’s eastside neighborhoods and experience a variety of garden styles and homes, including a historic home designed by architect John Gaw Meem and the home and gardens of artist Forrest Moses. Among the botanical delights available for viewing are roses, annuals, flowering shrubs, clematis, fruit trees, and vegetable gardens. The locations can be visited in any order on this self-guided venture. The cost is \$35 (\$65 for both Sundays) if purchased in advance. Tickets are available from Tickets Santa Fe at the Lensic (988-1234, www.ticketsantafe.org). On the day of the tour, tickets can be purchased for \$40 (or \$75 for both dates) at all locations; tickets purchased in advance may be picked up at the Lensic or at 1047 Old Santa Fe Trail (one of the stops on the tour). Maps are provided with ticket purchases and are available online at www.santafebotanicalgarden.org. Call Santa Fe Botanical Garden at 471-9103.

— Michael Abatemarco