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# Villagers' *The Gardens of Miami* book receives prestigious design award

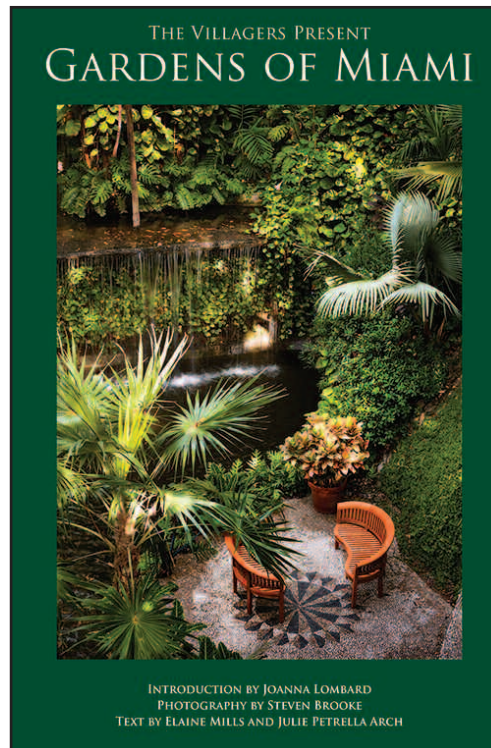
BY KAREN F. BUCHSBAUM

The *Gardens of Miami* coffee table book features approximately 400 color photos showcasing 27 extraordinary, private gardens in the Miami area. Published by the not-for-profit group The Villagers, proceeds support historical preservation.

The book recently received the Award of Honor from the Design Awards Committee of the Florida Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

The Villagers Inc. is Miami-Dade County's oldest historic preservation organization, founded in 1966. The group has

helped restore and preserve much of Miami-Dade's unique history through supporting preservation efforts of more than 70 local organizations. The book was planned to launch this year in conjunction with The Villagers' 50th anniversary.



(c) Steven Brooke Studios

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— Dolly MacIntyre,  
Villagers member

allows for an exceptional diversity. Gardens featured in the 264-page book range in philosophy and style from manicured waterfront mansions and mysterious jungles, to preserved historic properties, streamlined modern landscapes, quirky

creative settings, and restored wild swamps.

The introduction by University of Miami School of Architecture professor, Joanna Lombard, transports the reader through the past 100 years of explorers, scientists, and iconic landscape architects who have attempted to tame and preserve the natural beauty of the Miami landscape. Photography is by Steven Brooke and text by Elaine Mills and Julie Petrella Arch.

“The book is a must-have for the library of anyone who loves to garden or simply enjoys looking at gardens, said Villagers member Dolly MacIntyre, who conceived the idea for the book. “It was designed to be versatile enough to flip through casually, or studied closely for specific details.”

Due to underwriting, all funds from book sales will support The Villagers' mission of saving historic places. Copies are \$60 plus tax and can be purchased at Books & Books in Coral Gables, Vizcaya, and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens, or ordered on The Villagers' website at <[www.thevillagersinc.org](http://www.thevillagersinc.org)>.