



## *Gardens & Landscapes of Portugal*

### **Presentation**

After one year exactly, as we intended, the second volume of *Gardens & Landscapes of Portugal* journal is ready to be launched. This is only possible due to the excellent team working at and for G&LP success. My special thanks to Paulo Baptista and Rosie Peddle. We are also especially thankful for all the authors who submitted articles to this volume and went through a laborious process as well as to the referees for their careful and demanding reading which made each article more rigorous and more interesting than the former versions.

We are pleased to announce that the same structure has been kept and in the articles' section the journal has grown and one more article has been included. It is also important to underline that the main goals previously highlighted for our journal were adhered to: namely that 70% of the journal is dedicated to sharing Portuguese scientific research on gardens and landscape studies and that the other 30% is happily going to include main subjects that are interesting to all the fields of gardens and landscape studies.

We are also proud to say that all articles have gone through a double-blind referee process, after which authors have introduced the referee's suggestions into their texts. Proof-review and editing work were the last steps each of these articles have gone through. Thus, this volume stands as an international quarterly created with the collaboration of foreign authors and foreign referees.

This volume starts with an article by Aurora Carapinha which offers the perspective of the scholar on the essence of Portuguese gardens and her vision as to why they are the last guardian of the Mediterranean matrix. These conclusions are based on an inventory made by her in former years which includes more than a thousand items. Somehow still an heir of this tradition or at least of these ideals, Margaret Jackson's garden built in the 21st century aims to attain the Mediterranean garden concept against the flow in an Algarve totally dominated by a certain idea of tropical paradise created with lawns and palm trees. My article offers the unique manuscript by Margaret Jackson: more than 170 pages in which we are able to watch step by step the creation of this vernacular garden. Paulo Baptista's article on photography of Portuguese landscapes prompts a completely different notion of Portuguese representation, and relationship with landscape, and of the role photography had in the 19th century for this expression of the art, especially Biel's album *A arte e a natureza em Portugal*. The following article is on garden sculpture, but with a very particular taste for ancient art. Ricardo Mendonça highlights some details of the production of stone and lead sculptures in Portuguese gardens such as at the Palace of Fronteira, the Tropical garden in Belém and the garden of the National Museum of Ancient Art. Finally, Abigail Dowling from the University of California, offers us an article which is also a revision of the knowledge we have on Pier de Crescenzi's treatise, the most outstanding book on good farm management of the 14th century and absolutely influential for the whole Mediterranean world, especially following the printed editions of the 16th century.

In the section "On Projects", Alexandra Gago da Câmara tells us about a successful example of a project where art history, gardens and tourism are perfectly matched and that might be a solution for the lack of opportunities in these fields. In the end, we are also able to include the book reviews by two landscape architects, Aurora Carapinha and Rute Sousa Matos, on very important studies for the field. Aurora Carapinha has written the book review of *Paisajes Culturales del patrimonio mundial* (2012) coordinated by Ana Luengo and Mechtild Rossler for UNESCO and Rute Sousa Matos has written the book review of a very particular chapter of *The Dynamic Landscape: Design, Ecology and Management of Naturalistic Urban Planting*, coordinated by Nigel Dunnett and James Hitchmough (2004).

It is an honour for us to say that this volume of *Gardens and Landscapes of Portugal* is an example of multi-disciplinary approaches given by different disciplines with contributions from landscape architects, art historians, historians and sculptors. It stands also as an example of multi-generational contributors, including articles of renowned scholars alongside those from PhD candidates. It stands as an example of scientific research that also promotes Portuguese heritage and never neglects the mainstream subjects of an international forum of gardens and landscape studies. This is the path we wish to follow.

Ana Duarte Rodrigues