

# Designing with Annuals

## Mark Dwyer – Landscape Prescriptions by MD

1. Designing with Annuals
2. examples, formal and informal
3. details!, Persian shield (*Strobilanthes dyerianus*, 18”+)
4. plants with attitude, ‘Elephant Head’ amaranth (*Amaranthus gangeticus*, 60”)
5. Caretaking Commitment
  - a. “Plunk and run” won’t cut it!
  - b. Understand the soils, solar exposure, watering requirements, etc. and plan accordingly
  - c. Fertilizer
  - d. Tweaking and tending
  - e. Extended show
  - f. Transitions
6. box store neglect
7. precipitation
8. Banana Blizzard pot marigold (*Calendula officinalis* ‘2012357d’, 18”)
9. It’s Not Just About the Flower!
  - a. Yes! Flowers are important!
  - b. Research ALL features!
  - c. Foliage
  - d. Color
  - e. Texture
  - f. Fruiting
  - g. Scent
  - h. Form
  - i. Pollinator potential
  - j. *Gomphocarpus* ‘Oscar’
10. examples
11. ‘Black Pearl’ ornamental hot pepper (*Capsicum annuum*, 18”)
12. Consider Foliage
  - a. Don’t ever underestimate the impact of colorful and/or textural foliage
  - b. Foliage may be a supplement to flowers or may be the primary feature of interest. Perhaps foliage scent is an added benefit as well...
  - c. Consider visual texture – bold, fine and everything in between can add value
  - d. Indian Summer coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides* ‘Balcinsu’, 28”)
13. The Nuances of Foliage
  - a. Coloration
  - b. Size of the foliage
  - c. Foliage shape
  - d. Glossiness vs. matte
  - e. Fragrance
  - f. Richness and depth
  - g. Bold prominence

14. example, Cantigny (Wheaton, IL), late summer
15. example, Olbrich Botanical Garden (Madison, WI), note *Aechmea blanchetiana* 'Orange' and coleus
16. example, note 'Fiona Sunshine' jasmine (*Jasminum officinale*), coleus and calico plant (*Alternanthera*)
17. example, Rotary Botanical Gardens (Janesville, WI), note 'Canary Wings' begonia (18"), Royal Hawaiian® 'Black Coral' elephant ear (*Colocasia esculenta*, 40") and *Aralia cordata* 'Sun King' (perennial) in the back
18. more examples
19. A Word About Flower Architecture
  - a. Flower color and the resulting combinations are certainly important
  - b. We know that colorful and textural foliage adds extra richness to a vignette
  - c. Don't neglect to use different flower shapes to add dimension and pizzaz!
  - d. *Gomphrena* 'Cosmic Flare'
20. 'Profusion Red' zinnia (*Zinnia hybrida*, 18")
21. 'China Town' plume celosia (*Celosia plumosa*, 18")
22. 'Strawberry Fields' globe amaranth (*Gomphrena haageana*, 24")
23. Starship™ Scarlet cardinal flower (*Lobelia x speciosa* 'PAS905521', 24") z6
24. Redhead coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides* 'UF0646', 36")
25. Container Potential, 'Thailand Giant' elephant ear [*Colocasia* (syn. *Leucocasia*) *gigantea*, 60"+] and 'Canary Wings' begonia (*Begonia hybrida*, 18")
26. Container Opportunities
  - a. Expanded growing opportunity (literally and figuratively!)
  - b. Seasonal transitions (\$)
  - c. "Bookend" the slam dunk summer displays with early spring and fall
  - d. Consider winter arrangements
  - e. Commitment for care
  - f. Examples
27. Bee Happy™ Orange beggar's tickseed (*Bidens ferulifolia* 'Baleenan', 14")
28. Taka Tuka® 'Red Yellow Center' beggar's tickseed (*Bidens ferulifolia*, 15")
29. Taka Tuka® 'White Yellow Center' beggar's tickseed (*Bidens ferulifolia*, 15")
30. Taka Tuka® 'Red Glow' beggar's tickseed (*Bidens ferulifolia*, 15")
31. Brazen™ Imperial Luck beggar's tickseed (*Bidens ferulifolia*, 12")
32. 'Bee's Knees' petunia (*Petunia hybrida*, 10")
33. Supertunia® Indigo Charm petunia (*Petunia hybrida*, 10")
34. Starlet™ Light Pink petunia (*Petunia hybrida* 'KLEPH20490', 10")
35. Cha-Cha™ Diva Hot Pink million bells (*Calibrachoa hybrida* 'Balchadotin', 12")
36. Superbells® Grape Punch™ million bells (*Calibrachoa hybrida* 'JGCAL09404', 12")
37. Superbells® Cardinal Star™ million bells (*Calibrachoa hybrida* 'USCAL69404', 12")
38. Superbells® Morning Star™ million bells (*Calibrachoa hybrida* 'BBCAL27801', 12")
39. 'Dracula' cockscomb (*Celosia cristata*, 16")
40. same as above at the Chicago Botanic Garden (Glencoe, IL), note the trailing aluminum plant (*Dichondra argentea* 'Silver Falls', trailing)
41. trailing aluminum plant (*Dichondra argentea* 'Silver Falls', trailing)
42. Double Zahara™ Yellow Improved zinnia (*Zinnia marylandica*, 20")
43. 'Profusion Red Yellow Bicolor' zinnia (*Zinnia hybrida*, 15")
44. Mega Bloom® Pink Halo annual vinca (*Catharanthus roseus*, 15")

45. Mega Bloom® Orchid Halo annual vinca (*Catharanthus roseus*, 15")
46. Archangel™ Purple Improved summer snapdragon (*Angelonia angustifolia* 'Balarcpurpi', 14")
47. Supra™ Pink pinks (*Dianthus hybrida*, 12")
48. RioGrande™ Orange purslane (*Portulaca oleracea* 'KLEPO14824', 4")
49. ColorBlast 'Double Guava' purslane (*Portulaca hybrida*, 6")
50. Bloomify™ Mango lantana (*Lantana camara* 'Baloomang', 14")
51. Purple Falls lantana (*Lantana montevidensis*, 24")
52. Graffiti® 'Lavender Pink' Egyptian star flower (*Pentas lanceolata*, 12")
53. SURDIVA® 'Blue Violet' fan flower (*Scaevola hybrida*, 10")
54. GRANDAISY® 'Pink Halo' Marguerite daisy (*Argyranthemum frutescens*, 20")
55. 2022 Year of the Verbena (NGB)
56. Firehouse™ Blue Fizz verbena (*Verbena peruviana* 'Balfirebizz', 10")
57. BeBop™ Lavender verbena (*Verbena x hortensis* 'KLEVP13452', 12")
58. Vanessa™ 'Bicolor Pink' verbena (*Verbena x hortensis*, 12")
59. Firehouse™ White Improved verbena (*Verbena peruviana* 'Balfireitim', 10")
60. Lascar™ Mango Orange verbena (*Verbena hybrida* 'KLEVP15474', 14")
61. Angel Wings® senecio (*Senecio candicans* 'Senaw', 18")
62. 'Snowy Owl' silver knapweed (*Centaurea ragusina*, 18")
63. Silver Threads curry plant (*Helichrysum italicum* 'HYBHS18538', 10")
64. 'Pharoah's Mask' elephant ear (*Colocasia* sp., 48")
65. Royal Hawaiian® 'Waikiki' elephant ear (*Colocasia esculenta*, 36")
66. 'Redemption' elephant ear (*Colocasia* sp., 48")
67. Coleus
68. Copperhead coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides* 'UF17-52-25', 26")
69. above with silver spurflower (*Plectranthus argentatus*, 24"+)
70. Spitfire coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides* 'UF17-109-09', 16")
71. Vulcan coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides* 'UF18-62-10', 28")
72. Limewire coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides* 'UF17-52-13', 28")
73. Under the Sea™ 'Fishnet Gold' coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides*, 18")
74. Under the Sea™ 'Barracuda' coleus (*Solenostemon scutellarioides*, 16")
75. Sweet Potato Vines
76. Medusa™ Green sweet potato vine (*Ipomoea batatas*, 12" trailing)
77. SolarTower™ Lime ('Balsotowlim') and Black ('Balsotowac') climbing sweet potato vines (*Ipomoea batatas*, 80"+ climber)
78. Tangerine Slice A-Peel® black-eyed Susan vine (*Thunbergia alata* 'DL1501', 8' vine)
79. Sunny Susy® Amber Stripes black-eyed Susan vine (*Thunbergia alata*, 8' vine)
80. Beacon® Impatiens (18", 7 colors, 2 mixes)
81. Begonia Hybrids
82. These are ALL Excellent!
  - a. Whopper® Series (34", 4 varieties)
  - b. BIG® Series (20", 3 varieties)
  - c. Megawatt™ Series (28", 7 varieties)
  - d. Viking® Series (24", 8 varieties)
83. 'Canary Wings' begonia (*Begonia hybrida*, 18")
84. *Begonia boliviensis* Selections
  - a. Bossa Nova® (10 varieties)

- b. Beauvilia® (5 varieties)
  - c. Mistral® (5 varieties)
  - d. Waterfall® (4 varieties)
  - e. Million Kisses® (4 varieties)
  - f. Also check out:
    - i. 'Santa Cruz'
    - ii. 'San Francisco'
    - iii. Funky® (5 varieties)
85. 'Autumn Ember' begonia (*Begonia hybrida*, 18")
  86. Jurassic Megalo™ 'Croc' begonia (*Begonia hybrida*, 24")
  87. Jurassic Jr.™ 'Fire Spike' begonia (*Begonia hybrida*, 16")
  88. Jurassic Jr.™ 'Arctic Twist' begonia (*Begonia hybrida*, 16")
  89. Jurassic Dino™ 'Black Sky' begonia (*Begonia hybrida*, 16")
  90. Jurassic Dino™ 'Greenie' begonia (*Begonia hybrida*, 16")
  91. 'Hot Flash' caladium (*Caladium* sp., 18")
  92. 'Blazin' Rose' and 'Blazin' Lime' bloodleaf (*Iresine hybrida*, 36")
  93. *Plectranthus* Evolution
    - a. 'Mona Lisa Lavender'
    - b. 'Velvet Elvis' (pictured)
    - c. VELVET™ Diva
    - d. VELVET™ Idol
    - e. VELVET™ Lady (pink)
  94. In Summary
    - a. Determine scope of the plantings
    - b. Confirm they will thrive beyond installation
    - c. Come up with a rough scheme
    - d. Be fluid with all designs from layout through maintenance
    - e. Maximize impact and longevity
  95. Contact Information
    - a. [mcdwyer@zoho.com](mailto:mcdwyer@zoho.com)
    - b. [www.landscapeprescriptionsmd.com](http://www.landscapeprescriptionsmd.com)
  96. Edgerton (WI) Hospital Healing Garden
  97. Engage the kids!
  98. Thank You!