

A reunion 20 years in the making



In 2006, the Atlanta Botanical Garden presented what was then the largest exhibition of Niki de Saint Phalle's outdoor sculpture in the United States. Now, to mark the **Garden's 50th anniversary**, her vibrant, irresistible work returns in a joyous and highly anticipated encore of massive sculptures staged thoughtfully throughout the blooming Garden.

Born Catherine Marie-Agnès Fal de Saint Phalle in 1930, she was known to family simply as "Niki." She was, by every measure, a rebel. Raised in an upper-class French-American family with rigid expectations, she eloped at 18 with her childhood friend to escape their control.

In 1953, she suffered a nervous breakdown, and it was during her hospitalization that friends encouraged her to try painting as a path toward healing. That small act of creative recovery changed everything. Though she had once dreamed of acting, Saint Phalle chose art — and art, in turn, chose her. With no formal training, she forged her own path, associating freely with the era's most experimental artists, writers and composers.

Her art was never quiet. She used bold color, raw emotion and fearless scale to push back against a minimalist art world that had little room for joy, or for women.

She became best known for her "Nanas" — voluptuous, exuberant figures of women rendered in fiberglass, resin,

"I used to think there was a need to provoke, to attack religion, and the generals. And then I understood that there is nothing more shocking than joy."

— Niki de Saint Phalle, 1968

mosaic glass and mirror that seemed to dance rather than stand still. Animals, mythical creatures, totems and sports heroes populated her world as well. One of her greatest life's works, the *Tarot Garden* in Tuscany, is a sculptural landscape inspired by tarot cards — a surreal, walk-through universe she spent decades building.

Saint Phalle, who died in 2002, believed connecting with the natural world was essential to the human spirit, and she created sculpture gardens and outdoor exhibitions across the world to prove it. But here, among the blooms and canopy of the Atlanta Botanical Garden, her work lives on, as joyful as ever.

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blooming this season!

cocktails in the Garden



THURSDAY NIGHTS
MAY 14 - SEPT. 24
live music + global flavors & fun

**+ Visit the
Gainesville
Garden!**

gainesvillegarden.org

**WILD
& WONDERFUL**
FOLK ART BY ALFRED GLOVER
MAY 16 - AUG. 30

**music
IN THE GARDEN**
**JUNE
FEST**

Select Saturdays: Join us after 5 p.m. for kids' fun and local bands in a tree-lined amphitheater.

June 6, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Enjoy family-friendly entertainment, a mini-market and a Q&A with our knowledgeable horticulture staff.

Alston Lecture (Free!)

June 23, 7 p.m.
Herbalist and author Patricia Kyritsi Howell presents *The Southern Appalachian Mountains: The Apothecary of North America*.

Pollinator Party

June 26, 10 a.m. - noon
Celebrate the hard-working pollinators that help the Garden grow with a morning of family fun.

Summer Party June 27, 5 p.m.

Savor the season with an inspired evening of live music, food, cocktails and a lantern parade through the Garden.

Aglanta Eats Aug. 24, 6 p.m.

Dig into Atlanta's hyper-local food scene with an evening of nosh and knowledge in partnership with Aglanta, the Department of City Planning and the Mayor's Office of Sustainability & Resilience.

Weekly Kids Programs (included with admission!)

Garden Playtime

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - Noon
Introduce your little one to the joys of nature! Join us for fun activities that will stimulate your child's interest in the natural world.

Storybook Time

Wednesdays, 10 and 10:45 a.m.
Nature-inspired stories come to life with Ms. Ally.

Garden Grooves

Thursdays, 10 and 10:45 a.m.
Wiggle and warble to beloved Garden songs.

Shows for Seedlings

Fridays, 10 and 10:45 a.m.
Enjoy live music from local children's entertainers inspired by the Garden.

atlantabg.org



**EXHIBITION
GUIDE + MAP**



ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN

EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF THESE WORKS WITH YOUR HEART, NOT YOUR HANDS. STAY ON THE PATHS, RESPECT THE BARRIERS AND REFRAIN FROM TOUCHING THE SCULPTURES.



- 1. *Les Baigneurs*
- 2. *Le Temple Idéal*
- 3. *Ω (Omega)*
- 4. *Miles Davis*
- 5. *Louis Armstrong*
- 6. *Arbre Serpents*
- 7. *Seal*
- 8. *Bird Head Totem*
- 9. *Kingfisher Totem*
- 10. *Cat Head Totem*
- 11. *Large Yelling Man Totem*
- 12. *Grand Step Totem*
- 13. *The Prophet*
- 14. *Chair (Homme)*
- 15. *Chair (Homme)*
- 16. *Chair (Homme)*
- 17. *Golf Player*
- 18. *#23 Basketball Player*
- 19. *Les Trois Grâces Fontaine*
- 20. *Horus Et Sa Grace*
- 21. *Les Peinteurs*

- 22. *Pouf Serpent Jaune*
- 23. *Pouf Serpent Bleu*
- 24. *Adam et Eve*
- 25. *Le Banc des Générations*
- 26. *Oiseau Amoureux*

- 27. *Interpretive Gallery*
 - *Rhinoceros Plat*
 - *Grenouille*
 - *Singe a la Pomme*
 - *Grand Chameau Vase*
 - *Grand Eléphant Vase*
 - *Noah's Animals*
- 28. *Fontaine aux Nanas*
- 29. *Le Grand Diable*

- 30. *Le Banc*
- 31. *Star Fountain*
- 32. *Gardenhouse Gallery:*
 - *Collaboration (Remembering)*
 - *Mysterious Bird*
 - *Bat*
 - *Kissing Ducks*
 - *Monkey with a Baby*
 - *Remember?*

JOIN TODAY FOR A YEAR OF SAVINGS!

Today's visit is just the beginning. Apply your admission toward a Garden membership and enjoy unlimited visits during regular Garden hours, plus guest passes, discounts on events like *Garden Lights*, *Holiday Nights* and more. Visit Garden Admissions or atlantabg.org/join. *Restrictions apply.*

SCAN FOR DIGITAL MAP

