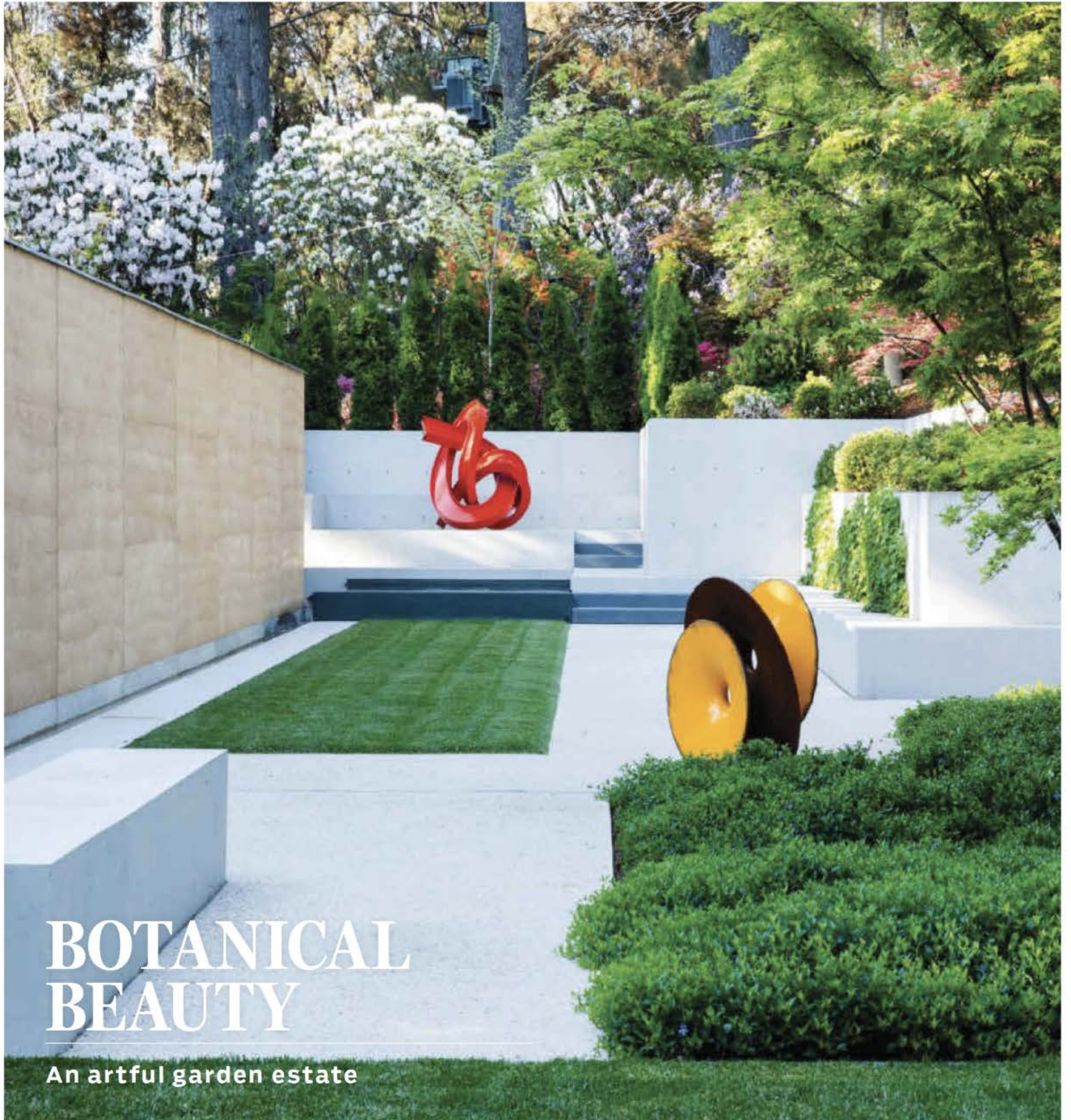


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**BOTANICAL
BEAUTY**

An artful garden estate



LARL CARTER

TOP TIER

Going above and beyond

By HELEN HAWKES

As everyday, AI-fuelled life becomes more hectic, and even owners of multimillion-dollar homes find space shrinking, it is rooftops that are providing a luxury refuge.

Prestigious Melbourne-based landscape architect Sam Barber says he has “experienced an increasing demand for rooftop, penthouse and upper-level landscapes”.

“When crafting either private or communal gardens and amenities, our projects harness themes such as restoration, rewilding, biophilia and bathing; active, passive and cognitive recreation; and, of prime importance, connection to nature and to people,” he says.

“[They] consider the infinite benefits of exposure to fresh air, sunlight, movement, heat, cold and growth.

“Listening, researching and engaging in a myriad of studies and practices enables our studio to create these elevated spaces that simply make people feel good.

“Adding usable square metres and creating a tailored environment for a client considerably elevates the value of their property.”

Belle Property Daylesford’s Annette Leary says that, besides giving a property an immediate

wow factor, “a rooftop garden can double your entertaining space while providing your home with excellent insulation and great food-growing opportunities as people look for more sustainable options”.

Award-winning Sydney-based garden designer Adam Robinson says they are a green oasis for inner-city residents, as well as a restful and exclusive place to commune with friends.

“We use beautifully appointed planting selections to create bountiful layering of colour and texture, while designs include all facilities needed for a modern lifestyle,” he says.

“Rooftop gardens are about expansive living and entertaining and clients want multi-use spaces that include dining, lounging and sometimes a pool, as well as an environment that speaks of both nature and luxury.”

Like Barber, he believes that creating spaces where residents are surrounded by greenery can have significant mental health benefits.

“Even the simple action of picking a lemon can contribute to wellbeing,” says Robinson, who has craned in trees up to three metres high to give an instant, Eden-like effect that envelops rooftop visitors in a botanical embrace. 🍋

Green rooftops and elevated spaces, like this Melbourne example by Barber Design, not only provide a wow factor but improve our connection to nature and our wellbeing.

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Agent: Belle Property Daylesford,
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Set high on 2.99 hectares, the main house of Wombat Hill Farm was designed by sustainability guru Joost Bakker and features his trademark grassed rooftop with stairway access.



Hover your camera over the code to see Domain listings in Daylesford