

## Monographs

### **Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates: Reconstructing Urban Landscapes**

Edited by Anita Berrizbeitia

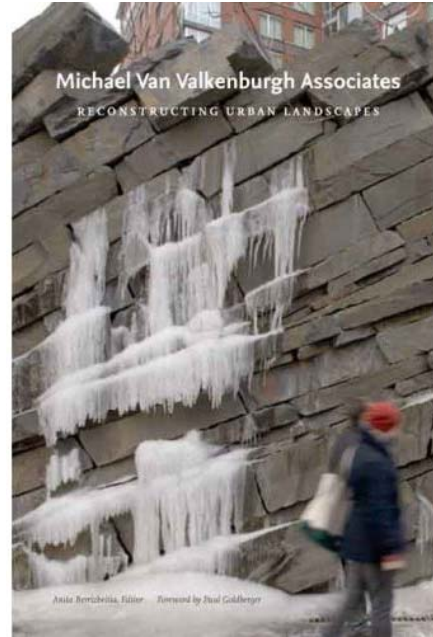
Forward by Paul Goldberger

Yale University Press, 2009

Instilling a poetics of place is a goal of Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates (MVVA), the famous landscape design firm that has created successful public spaces in some of the country's most challenging urban sites. In these locations, nature offers not so much an escape from city living as a teasing dialogue with built structures. The whole experience is aimed, as critic Paul Goldberger notes, to "make you see everything, city and nature alike, with a striking intensity."

Richly illustrated and handsomely designed, this is the first publication to explore a wide range of MVVA's projects, focusing on the firm's trend toward sites requiring complex technological solutions. Leading critics and historians look at twelve projects, dating from 1992 to the present, and each posing a challenge—such as contamination, isolation, and lengthy public approval proceedings. They explore the process through which the firm researches such issues and how solutions are embedded in the final aesthetics and spatial structure of the sites.

Anita Berrizbeitia is an associate professor of landscape architecture at the School of Design at the University of Pennsylvania. Paul Goldberger is an architecture critic for *The New Yorker* and the Joseph Urban Professor of Design and Architecture at The New School.



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### **Michael Van Valkenburgh/Allegheny Riverfront Park:**

Source Books in Landscape Architecture

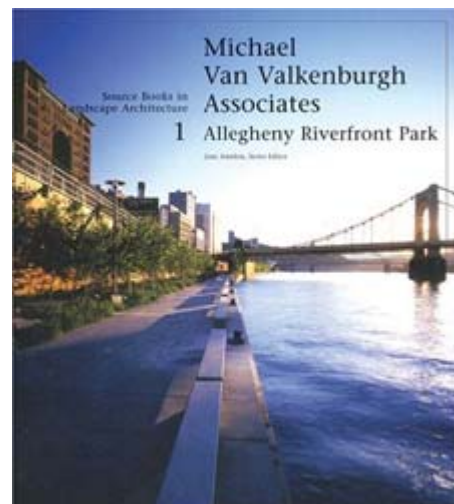
by Jane Amidon

Princeton Architectural Press, April 2005

In the field of landscape architecture, there is no more distinguished voice than Michael Van Valkenburgh, and so it is appropriate that we begin this new Source Books in Landscape Architecture series with his recently completed Allegheny Riverfront Park project for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. As part of the city's efforts to restore its downtown district and riverfront, Van Valkenburgh, along with artists Ann Hamilton and Michael Mercil, developed an ambitious plan to reform the wasted land along the river into an urban refuge. The celebrated collaboration between landscape architect and artists produced a thoughtful, useful, and beautiful park that has successfully renewed the city's core.

Source Books in Landscape Architecture, produced in collaboration with Ohio State University, will provide detailed documentation of important new projects.

Jane Amidon is a designer and writer currently teaching at the Knowlton School of Architecture.



## Design with the Land:

### The Landscape Architecture of Michael van Valkenburgh

edited by Brooke Hodge

Princeton Architectural Press/Harvard Graduate School of Design, 1994



Design with the Land presents selected projects, both public and private, by contemporary landscape architect Michael Van Valkenburgh. With rare and subtle eloquence, Van Valkenburgh combines distinctive artistic invention with a profound understanding of regional flora, seasonal fluctuations, and the cultural context of a site. His work contrasts clear, simple, architectural land forms with an almost romantic application of materials. Artful oppositions—deliberate and whimsical, modern and ancient, architectonic and natural, spare and rich—are evident in his projects, from the Pucker Garden in Brookline, Massachusetts, to his project for the redesign of the Tuilleries Garden in Paris. Other projects in this monograph include the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden Extension at the Walker Art Center, the entry landscape for General Mills Corporate Garden, the HO-AM Art Museum and sculpture garden in Seoul, Korea, and courtyard landscapes for both the New School for Social Research in New York City and a corporate client in Paris, as well as numerous private gardens from Los Angeles to Cape Cod. Beautifully illustrated in both color and black-and-white, Design with the Land is an elegant and thoughtful introduction to Van Valkenburgh's work, presented through models, drawings, and photographs of the gardens themselves, and distinctive text.

Published with the Harvard University Graduate School of Design

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## Out of Print Monographs

*Transforming the American Garden: Twelve New Landscape Designs*, exhibition catalogue produced with Margi Reeve and Jory Johnson. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Graduate School of Design, March 1986.

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