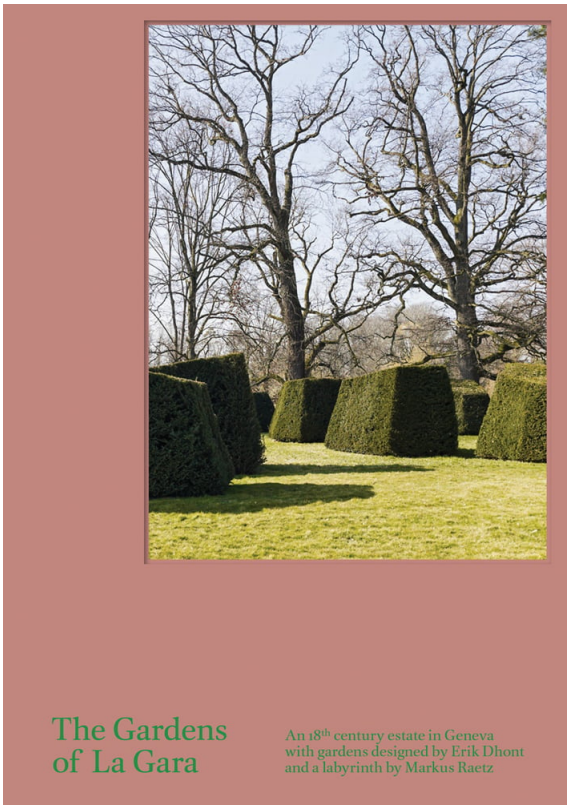
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The Gardens of La Gara

An 18th-Century Estate in Geneva with Gardens Designed by Erik Dhont

Anette Freytag

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- A comprehensive and beautifully designed monograph on the history and restoration of the historic La Gara estate near Geneva and the contemporary re-design of its gardens by Belgian landscape designer Erik Dhont

La Gara is an 18th-century country estate in Jussy, a village near Geneva, Switzerland. The buildings have been carefully restored by Swiss architect Verena Best, who also added inspired touches to the interior design. The renowned Belgian landscape designer Erik Dhont reinterpreted and subtly redesigned the gardens and surrounding grounds, completed by a palindrome-like labyrinth designed by Swiss artist Markus Raetz.

This new book tells the full story of the La Gara estate and illustrates its beauty. The essays investigate various aspects of its preservation and restoration of buildings and gardens and the contemporary interventions. They highlight features such as the historic watering system for the gardens and the fishponds, and look at the specific Genevan garden tradition and characteristics of the rural landscape around Jussy with its biodiversity. Moreover, they contextualise La Gara with the 'ferme ornée', a villa with agricultural and ornamental features following ancient Roman models. The beautiful volume is rounded out with newly commissioned photographs by renowned Swiss photographer Georg Aerni.

Anette Freytag is Professor of Landscape Design at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ.







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