

summer music & festivals | tales from thunder road

# vermont life

summer 2015

## One Day This Will All Be Yours

**Farms and the next  
generation**

the art of landscape design | restaurants grow their own





“I’m spoiled by the lack of traffic, the beauty all around me, the night sky, the wildlife, and having more space and time to think and be creative.”



**EARTH TONES** Messervy's touch is seen on a landscape in Rockingham. Her work has been praised for "a real commitment to the experience people are going to have in the garden, rather than design for its own sake."

PHOTO: EUGEN TEARE

the question that tugged at the back of her mind while she and Jonas drove around admiring so much undeveloped land: Was it really possible to run a successful international landscape design firm from a village in Vermont?



ELEVEN YEARS LATER, sun filters through the creaky windows of the firm's bright second-floor space where staffers pore over drafting tables and computers. Julie Moir Messervy Design Studio Inc., or JMMDS as it is known, now includes a team of six full- and part-time employees who work in such specialties as landscape architecture and design, marketing and project management. With about \$500,000 in annual revenue, business is about four times what it was in Massachusetts. The vibe on this particular day is intense focus and looming deadlines. Messervy and senior landscape architect Jana Bryan are busy preparing to fly to Richmond, Virginia, to make a presentation at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, where JMMDS has been hired to design a master plan for future development of the property. "The creativity floods out of Julie," says Frank Robinson, president and CEO of the Lewis Ginter garden. "What she brings is a real commitment to the experience people are going to have in the gardens, rather than design for its own sake."

Messervy, who holds master's degrees in architecture and city planning from MIT and studied with Japanese garden expert Kinsaku

*(Continued on page 65)*