

A Bit of Garden Levity



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I need a break from reality. Rather than another discussion of tomato diseases, let's focus on a garden distraction. One can easily see the temptation to dress up the garden with something, anything. There are so many options these days. Gnomes, whirligigs, sculptures, geegaws of every sort. Most of them don't fit well with my psyche. But I've found one that does.



Lucys in Kevin's garden

We call it the “Lucy.” That’s the name of just one of the various styles of plexiglas sun discs offered by the manufacturer, Cazador-del-sol. But Lucy was the name of the first disc we bought, and since its the name of our oldest granddaughter, we call them all Lucy, even though the manufacturer has other names. Now our garden is festooned with an assortment of Lucys, many colors, sizes, and shapes. The biggest of these intriguing discs is 6” wide. Some are flat discs, others are wavy, and some are shaped like stylized flowers. All are delightful. When evening comes, and the flowers in your garden gradually recess into the growing darkness, the Lucy discs are at their best. They glow in a mystifying way, and are a delight to all who see them, especially children. In a garden with many of the discs, the garden becomes a magical place at the end of the day, the gloaming. Each sun-catching disc is held on a bendable fiberglass rod which allows the discs to move with the breeze, almost like a kinetic sculpture. Especially striking when you have a grouping of them.



Lucy



Lucille

There are miniature versions of the Lucys, and they can be used to decorate small pots and containers. But with the shorter

stems and smaller discs, there is less wind movement. The Lucys aren't just great in the summer. They look great year 'round. In winter, when we have snow, the fiberglass rods hold the discs well above the snow (usually) and provide a bright diversion to the otherwise monochrome landscape.



Nea



Cazador-del-sol

Since there's a wide selection of Lucys, your garden may soon be hosting a number of these eye-catching suncatchers. Ours certainly does. Visitors to any Lucy garden will certainly remember this bold, yet subtle spectacle. And another thing—they make gifts. Next time you are invited to the home of a gardener, or really anyone with even the smallest yard, think of the Lucy suncatcher as a hostess gift. Much more memorable than a bottle of wine that's accepted without a second glance. The Lucy will be a great memory of your visit to your friend's house and garden, for many years to come.

Please email me (kevin@milaegers.com) with your questions and comments!

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