

THE CULTIVATED

Life

entertaining

SUMMER MAGIC

A quiet corner in Keith Robinson's Georgia garden is a charming spot for an afternoon get-together.

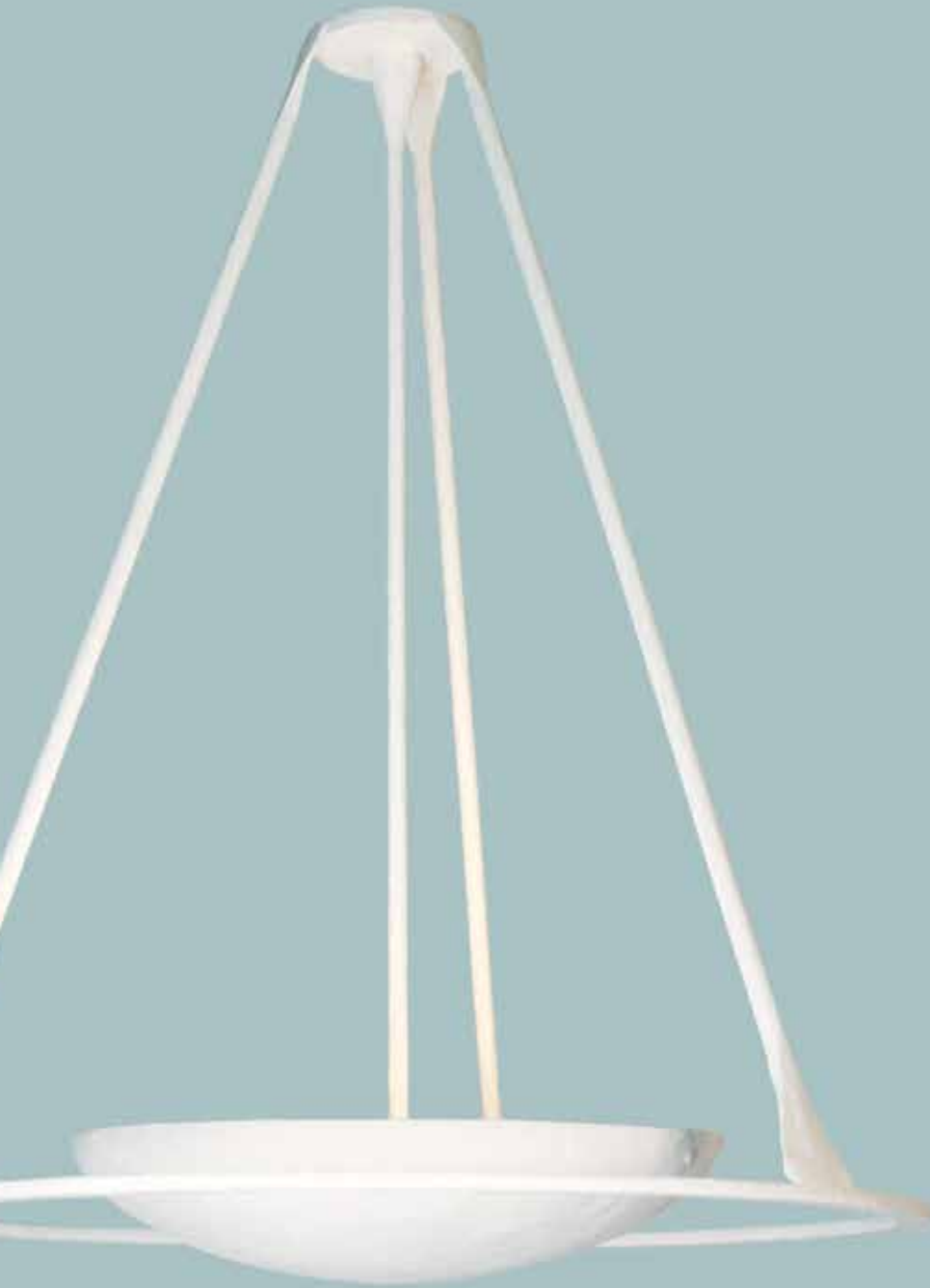
A graceful arrangement of *Hydrangea paniculata* anchors the table.



at the height of the sultry Georgia summer, the front hedge of Keith Robinson's historic plantation explodes into a breathtaking wall composed of the verdant leaves and snowy blooms of *Hydrangea paniculata*, creating a bucolic backdrop for an intimate afternoon fete he hosts for friends in honor of the blackberry harvest. "In July and August, this area of the garden is truly spectacular," says the event designer, describing his favorite



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The table is set for a casual confab. Robinson serves guests his blackberry hand pies with fresh blackberry jam. A shaded potting station where Robinson keeps fragile topiaries and an extra set of gardening tools. Plates, Raynaud; tumblers, Juliska; flatware, Hermès.



*Celine pendant shown in Venetian plaster
A collaboration with interior designer Tricia Huntley*

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Robinson adds the finishing touches.

"Oftentimes, something a bit simple and quiet can actually speak volumes."

grassy spot for savoring the splendor of the summer season.

Careful not to outshine the brilliance of the flora, Robinson leans toward fresh but muted tones for the casually elegant table. Taking cues from the surrounding palette, he swathed the round table in a charming Provençal print and layered on milky china with a delicate green trim alongside gleaming silverware and glass tumblers. Rich, toffee-toned chairs with crisp, white cushions add a sophisticated note. A fabric embroidered with a spirited floral motif covers the buffet table and sets off the sugar-dusted hand pies and fresh jam that Robinson crafted from just-picked blackberries.

In addition to speckled figs still clinging to their leafy branches—they're meant as a playful nod to the plethora of seasonal produce grown around the property—a mélange of sculptural vases overflowing with fluffy hydrangea and sweetly scented tuberose were chosen for their complete lack of color. "I love collecting white vessels because they really highlight the striking shapes and designs of whatever blooms you put in them," he says. "Oftentimes, something a bit simple and quiet can actually speak volumes." □

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