

WGBH
ONE GUEST STREET
BOSTON, MA 02135

LIVE OUTDOORS

THE VICTORY GARDEN



Jamie Durie

HOST

Jamie Durie is a qualified horticulturist and landscape designer and founder of the international award-winning design company PATIO Landscape Architecture and Design. He has authored five books, *PATIO—Garden Design and Inspiration*, *The Outdoor Room*, *The Source Book*, *Outdoor Kids* and *Inspired*. Two of these titles are released under his own publishing company, Jamie Durie Publishing.

Durie is undoubtedly one of Australia's most recognizable talents, having hosted many of Australia's top-rated programs including *Backyard Blitz*, *The Block*, *Torvill and Dean's Dancing on Ice* and *Skating on Thin Ice*. However, it was in his role as host of the television series *Backyard Blitz* where he first captured and inspired the imagination of the Australian public, making gardening 'hip' again. The successful garden makeover show received six consecutive Logie Awards for Most Popular Lifestyle Program.

Born in Manly, North Sydney, Durie spent most of his childhood in the Western Australian outback mining town of Tom Price. With his mother and grandmother both Sri Lankan (born in Galle and Kandy respectively), he has inherited a love of the Sri Lankan culture and lifestyle. Like his father, and all Australians, he loves the outdoors and is passionate about nature and creating the ultimate outdoor living space. His inspiration comes from the vast natural beauty of the Australian landscape, years of extensive international travel and his passion for protecting the environment. He successfully combines these raw elements to create his own unique style in his garden designs and has truly pioneered the concept of "The Outdoor Room."

A best-selling author, publisher and television host, Durie also designs his own successful line of innovative and fashionable gardening and outdoor living merchandised product, PATIO by Jamie Durie. This product line is available exclusively through Australia and New Zealand retailing giant Kmart.

An advocate for preserving our natural surroundings and environmental future, Durie is an ambassador for Planet Ark's National Tree Day and sits on the board of the Royal Botanic Gardens Foundation in Sydney.

PRODUCED BY



FUNDING PROVIDED BY



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Other notable achievements include:

- A gold medal in the Show Gardens category at the 2008 Royal Horticultural Society Chelsea Flower Show, along with 28 additional national and international garden design awards.
- Currently designing large scale gardens and resorts in eight different countries, including Spain, Port Douglas Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Morocco, Dubai, Hawaii and Thailand
- Awarded a Centenary Medal for services to Television and the Australian Community from Prime Minister John Howard Ambassador for his work with Plan International, Children's Cancer Institute, Planet Ark National Tree Day
- 6 Consecutive Logie Awards for *Backyard Blitz* in the category of Most Popular Lifestyle Program
- Executive Producer and host of *Jamie's Journey Hope for Uganda's Children*, in conjunction with Plan International (Child Sponsorship Agency) for HIV Aids awareness in Uganda (aired on Channel 9 in early April 06)
- Appeared on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* in November 2006, May 2007 and February 2008
- Regularly displays in competes at and attends international garden shows including Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Cairns and New Zealand
- Exhibited a garden design at Pacific Flora 2004 Japan (The World Garden Competition) and received 2 awards: Inspiration and the Award of Excellence for Construction.

ABOUT THE VICTORY GARDEN

The Victory Garden is a production of WGBH Lifestyle Productions. Funding is provided by Subaru. The series is closed-captioned for deaf and hard-of-hearing viewers by the Media Access Group at WGBH. Laurie Donnelly is executive producer. Hilary Finkel Buxton is series producer. For more information on *The Victory Garden*, visit www.pbs.org/victorygarden.

ABOUT WGBH BOSTON

WGBH Boston is America's preeminent public broadcasting producer, the source of one-third of PBS's primetime lineup and companion online content as well as many public radio favorites. WGBH is a pioneer in educational multimedia (including the Web, broadband, and interactive television) and in technologies and services that make media accessible for people with disabilities. WGBH has been recognized with hundreds of honors: Emmys, Peabodys, DuPont-Columbia Awards—even two Oscars. In 2002, WGBH was honored with a special institutional Peabody Award for fifty years of excellence. For more information, visit www.wgbh.org.

Additional press materials and color photography are available for download at
<http://pressroom.wgbh.org> or <http://pbs.org/pressroom>.

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