



YOUR
POWERFUL
RETREAT with **YOUR NEW**
LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Healing the energy of Earth, society and people



Healing the energy of Earth, society and people.
LASD Studio

I can discover an easy and proven way to heal my energy, and help guarantee my future health and happiness. Create an outdoor inspirational environment with the unique concept from LASD Studio. I will love the result of POWERFUL daily retreat with my new landscape design by LASD Studio.

I cultivate a deeper compassion, acceptance and a higher purpose in life for the continuous unfolding of love and gratitude to our mother Earth by LASD Studio design services.

If I am in need of Powerful Retreat for my spirit and body energy, I shall create a new outdoor environment, I will receive an inspirational space for the peace of mind with energy restoration because there is LASD Studio team ready to make it for me.

Request your new landscape design:

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LASD Studio Mission

*Healing the energy of Earth, society and people.
LASD Studio*

LASD Studio mission is to heal the energy of Earth, society and people by garden design, landscape architecture and urban design services worldwide.

The LASD Studio concept introduced by four main pillars as Landscape, Art, Spirit and Design.

Landscape calls for the healing of Earth using sustainable practice including local materials, flora and fauna from local ecosystem as a source for healing the Earth. Therefore, we create eco-friendly environments by enhancing the power of nature. As well we influence the mental and physical health of individual human beings and society.

Each of LASD Studio project combines well design environment with sustainable solutions targeting global ecological challenges of the world. At LASD we are healing the universal energy of original creation. Art explains an aesthetical value for each individual project based on style, combination of styles and human history of Art. We believe that Art is a first step in evolution of design.

Spirit guides towards unfolding universal unconscious energy by providing access for the spiritual healing of individuals, community and our planet. LASD Studio transforms positive unconscious universal energy into the real, physical, material reality by providing our designing services. We cultivate deeper compassion, acceptance and higher purpose in life for the continuous unfolding of love and gratitude in our design works.

Design directs toward detailed project review of exterior design bringing LASD Studio international collaboration and experience of like-minded professionals.

LASD Studio believes in creating outdoor environments that renew your spirit and body energy.

LASD Studio creates exterior spaces in 3 different scales: Garden Design, Landscape Architecture and Urban design. We share our message with the world for the idea of healing the Earth, society and people by providing Exterior designs that help to renew your spirit and body energy.

LASD Studio creates exterior designs worldwide with the main office in San Diego, California.

LASD Studio operates locally and internationally through partnership with like-minded professionals around the world, proudly delivering high-quality designing projects for residential and commercial sites.

I. Landscape

Landscape stands for the healing the Earth. It combines well designed environment with sustainable solutions targeting global ecological challenges of the world.

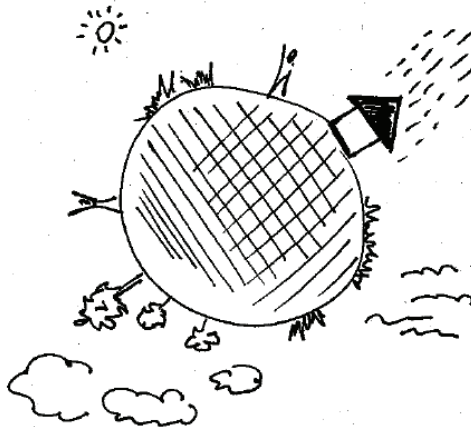


Healing the Earth

LASD Studio targeting global environmental issues. Every design is treated as a blueprint for healing the Earth, Landscape and ecosystem. It is not a surprise that the Earth-change dynamic trends lead next generations to the global warming and increase of CO₂ emission. This dynamic started increase dramatically during industrial period of human civilization. At LASD Studio we believe that each of our project heals the planet. By our works we dealing with: CO₂ emission; soil phytoremediation; reestablishment of ecosystem; reducing water and electricity usage; bringing wildlife and biodiversity to the site in order to heal the Earth for the future generations. We believe in Gaya theory that proposes that organisms interact with their inorganic surroundings on Earth forming a synergetic self-regulating system that helps to maintain the conditions for life on the planet. Therefore, each individual project is a huge contribution for the healing and preserving the Earth for the next human generation.

Ecosystem and sustainability

Ecosystem is a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environments. We look at the existing condition of the ecosystem and create design based on micro and macro ecosystem environments. This holistic principle helps us to understand the existing condition of the place and provide a sustainable solution for every individual project as a part of the bigger ecosystem image. We use local building materials and plants to create a closer connection between humans and the nature. As a part of the sustainability we look at the storm water management, water and electricity efficiency of the design, as well as supporting local flora and fauna. All these are the forces needed for the better future of humans and our planet, but they also significantly reduce the price for the project installation.



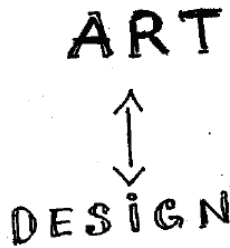
II. Art

Art stands for bringing an aesthetic value for each individual project based on style, combination of styles and human history of Art. We believe that Art is a first step in evolution of design.



What is ART?

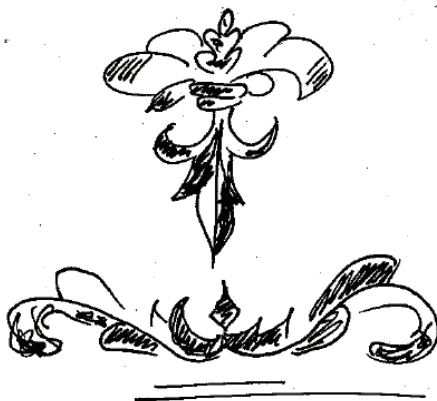
At LASD Studio we relate every landscape design, landscape architecture and urban design project with the art. We treat spaces as an artist would treat the canvas.



Evolution of Art and Landscape

Renaissance

During Renaissance times, from an Art perspective, landscape was considered as a constant static environment. The main idea was to represent the perfection of ideal landscapes. Is it beautifully described in the concept 'Landscape Two' by John Brinckerhoff Jackson. According to him, the landscape characterized as 'permanent position both in the social and topographical sense, that gives us our identity' [1]. The landscape was shown as a very static, constant and scenery element of a human life. At the same time, the landscape was seen as a gently organism. In pictorial art, the paintings of Claude Lorrain reflect the idea of a pastoral scene with balanced unity of man and nature.



Industrialism and Early Modernism

Lately, Jan Bijhouwer in his book 'Het Nederlandse Landschap' described landscape as a continuous, ongoing process over the time and space [2]. Thus, Aesthetic of the landscape changes towards more dynamic and unstable system. Also, Jackson, inspired by American landscapes and its processes of changes, wrote 'I am confused by the temporary spaces I see: the drive-in, fast-food establishment that is torn down after a year, the fields planted to corn and then the soya beans and then subdivided; the trailer communities that vanish when vacation is over, the tropical gardens in shopping malls that are replaced each season; motels abandoned when the highway moves.' [3] Landscape is always artificial, always synthetic and always subject of a sudden or an unpredictable change.

Lately, Jackson's realistic vision was supplemented by the concept of 'Total Landscape' by Rolf Peter Sieferle 'The totality of the total landscape is a residual product of many different actions, each of which pursues its own ends. It reflects the result of work, traffic, housing, recreation, tourism, consumerism, landscape planning nature protection...' [4]

All these contemporary theories are simply the summary of a major development of human civilization. As a result, different actions and processes lead to a change of style and aesthetic of the landscape.

This switch from classical aesthetic to relational aesthetic was described in 'System Esthetics' by Jack Burnham 'the system approach goes beyond a concern with staged environments and happenings; it deals in a revolutionary fashion with the larger problem of boundary concepts. In systems perspective there are no contrived than material limits define the system' . [5]

This switch of Aesthetic can be seen in pictorial artworks of Wassily Kandinsky. It simply represents objects and processes that correlates in the relation to each other in one system of complex composition.

Rem Koolhaas described this concept like 'free style': 'There are three elements: roads, buildings, and nature; they coexist in flexible relationships, seemingly without reason, in speculator organizational diversity.' [6]

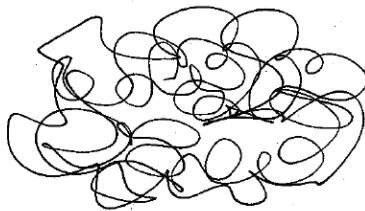
A good example of such a concept could be submitted design for Park de la Villette by Rem Koolhaas, an extremely complex example of processes that in some way could be related to the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky, Klee and Mondrian.

Triumph of Modernism

When we look at the modern art, in particular of Abstract Expressionism, we realize that whole canvas is a one united world with the complex coexistence of different elements. The good example would be the works of Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko and Willem de Kooning.

‘Abstract art has helped us to experience the emotional power in pure form’. [7]

Besides the contemporary science of perception of spaces and emotional power, Abstract Art represents the idea of wholeness, unitedness and complete holistic approach in the designing spaces. Contemporary art trends lead us towards bringing more nature and wild life into the design while playing a contract with contemporary architecture and the power of pure nature . [8]



Aesthetic and Styles in Landscape Architecture

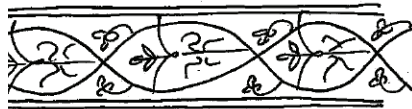
At LASD Studio we define several main architectural styles. Those are: Victorian, Islamic Architecture, Romanesque, Baroque, Bauhaus, Neo-classical, Renaissance, Gothic, Modernism and Contemporary Styles. In the United States of America, we mainly define Colonial, Spanish Revival and Contemporary architecture styles.



Victorian

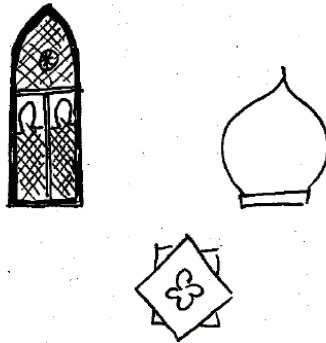
The Victorian Era saw a reinvestigation of many architectural styles including Gothic Revival, Tudor and Romanesque.

During the industrial revolution many homes were built in the Victorian style.



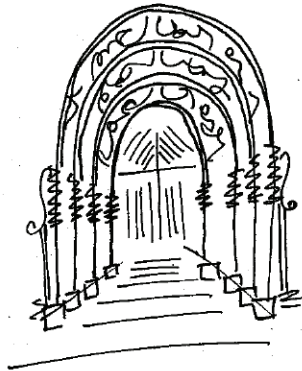
Islamic Architecture

Islamic architecture varies greatly depending on the region such as Persia, North Africa and Spain. Moorish and Mosque are the best example of Islamic styles including pointer arches, symmetry, domes and beautiful courtyards with the decoration of surfaces by tiles.



Romanesque

Romanesque or Norman Architecture style emerged across Europe in the late 10th Century. The most famous features are the rounded arches, repetition of rows of round-headed arches, stylized floral and foliage stone. You might see this style in Portugal churches like Porto Cathedral.



Baroque

Baroque arrived later after Romanesque style. Baroque as a style appeared during celebration of Catholic religion, it is more emotive, spectacular and represents the power of balanced order with the visual points of static aesthetical order. You might find a good example of such work as Palace of Versailles.



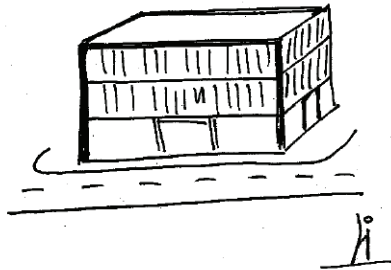
Tudor

Tudor architecture arrived as the latest phase of the medieval period in England between the 1400s and 1600s. Usually houses were built with thatched roof, masonry chimney and timber-framed facades. You might see this style in Gissselfeld, Denmark and Warwickshire, England.



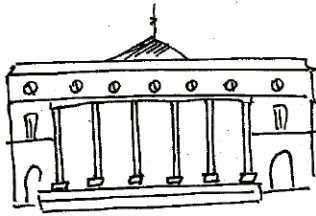
Bauhaus

Originally an art school in Germany in the early 1900s. The main idea of this style is to unify mass-production of the specific design. As a definition for this style you may look at cubic shapes, flat roof, glass curtain walls. A good example of such a style could be IKEA, Schools of Soviet architecture etc.



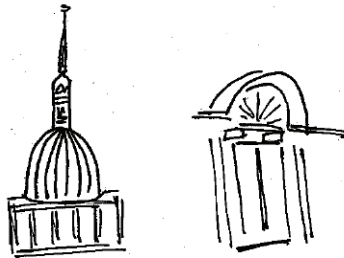
Neo-classical

Neoclassicism arrived from Baroque and Rococo styles. Inspiration for this style was the classic Ancient Greek and Roman architecture where symmetry and perfection of balance were the core of the design. As a main element of such design you might find free standing columns, clean lines, excessive open grass areas, as well as lion sculpture that guarding the greatness of the architecture.



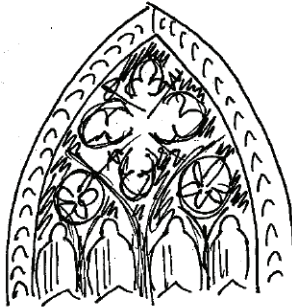
Renaissance

Renaissance appeared in Italy during the 15th Century. The main intention of the design was to reflect the elegance and ideals of private domestic life. Here you might find the open large forest with a private hunting facilities, as well as, enclosed courtyards, classical motifs of the power of symmetry and order. All these demonstrate the human power over the nature.



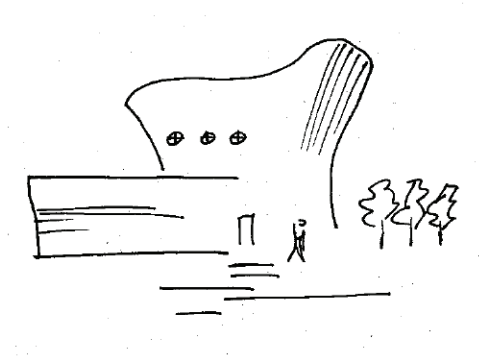
Gothic

Gothic architecture delivered Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, and greatness European architecture from the 12th Century. It combines flourishes of the previous styles and uses them all together. However, this style brings more elegance to all of the elements including thinner walls, adorned windows with beautiful mosaic patterns, more elegant columns and the symmetry of order as a blueprint for the design.



Modernism and Contemporary

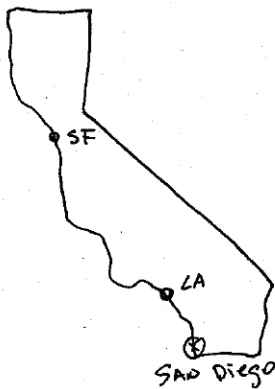
Modernism is a movement from the 20th century including styles like futurism, Post-Modernism, New Classical Architecture and Contemporary movement of the architecture. It begins to use new unknown materials, shapes, spaces; the design is based on sun light, freedom and shaping a human comfort. It combines all the greatness of previous styles in a new metamorphosis of previously unknown architecture. Here is the dominance of disorder vs. order and relation of elements on a free standing aesthetical coexistence versus spatial perfection of balanced architecture.



Styles in California

In California, the U.S.A., the main architecture styles would be Spanish Revival, Colonial and Contemporary as the most presented styles. However, you may find Beach, Country, Craftsman, Log, Mediterranean, Mountain, Rustic ect. etc.

At LASD Studio we designing exteriors in order to emphasize the greatness of existing architecture. Furthermore, we are bringing Aesthetical value and additional equity to the site.



Spanish Revival (Colonial Revival)

1915-1931.

This style appears in North America during Panama-California Exposition.

This is eclectic combination of early Spanish colonization of North and South America, started in Florida and California.

Roots of this style coming from traditional Spanish, Mediterranean architecture with earlier influence of Moorish and Gothic architecture. This style become known as Spanish Revival, Colonial Revival or Spanish Eclectic.

The main elements of this style are: Curves and arches, white stucco exterior and wall, colored tiles with Spanish ornament, terracotta roof tiles, plenty of balconies with beautiful ironwork, wooden doors and gates, cozy courtyards and patios with large terracotta pots small fountains. Sometimes we can see influence of Moorish architecture like lanterns with colorful glass and pavement of with special ornament.



Colonial style

Colonial style introduced to America by European influence from 1600- 1700 years.

It distinguished by absolute balance of geometry of the facades like windows, doors etc. with the houses usually of 2-3 stores.

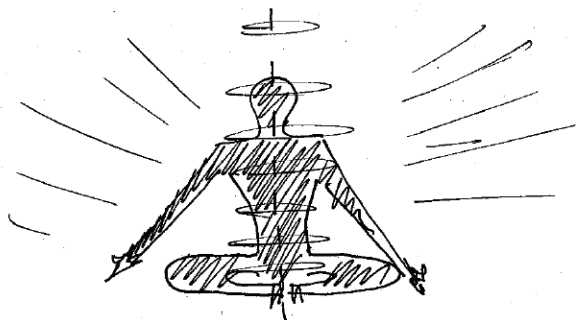
Main colors for the houses are white facades with green or red windows. American Colonial style have a lot of eclectic combination including Georgian style with the influences from western part of European homes.



III. Spirit

Spiritual Energy guides us towards unfolding universal unconscious energy by providing access for the spiritual healing of individuals and society. LASD Studio transforms positive unconscious universal energy into the real, physical, material reality by providing our designing services. We heal your spirit and body energy by proven connection with the serene power of nature. At LASD Studio we create sanctuary spaces to heal your spiritual energy.

We believe that surrounding ourselves with positive people as well as positive environment brings sustainable, long-term lasting positive impact to our human lives.



Landscape Design for Mindfulness

Our modern world is too busy, too disruptive. Very often we have an increased brain activity with overwhelming thoughts, stress. As a result of increased high efficient brain activity we burn a lot of inner source energy. We have a lack of sleep, rest and finally we burn out having stress.

Just as we clean our thoughts guiding them for the positive thinking, we design outdoor environment as a clean inspirational environment. Such a design helps to achieve a higher level of productivity including spirit, body and mental healing. Clare Cooper Marcus has done an evidence based research on therapeutic outcome of the nature environments. Based on her research, an access to the natural landscape or a garden can enhance people's ability to deal with stress and thus potentially improve health outcome.

At LASD Studio we believe in healing of spirit and body energy by special landscape design practice. A clear sanctuary environment versus busyness is the main factor for the designing spaces for better brain activity.

Nature has always been a healing environment for the humans. We often take a long hiking rout through the nature, walk in the forest or take the trip to the ocean simply because we need to recharge ourselves, clean the head from the heavy thoughts and heal our energy. Some of us could take a trip to the nature settings for a week or even months, years. Buddhist monks could spend many years in the nature environment.

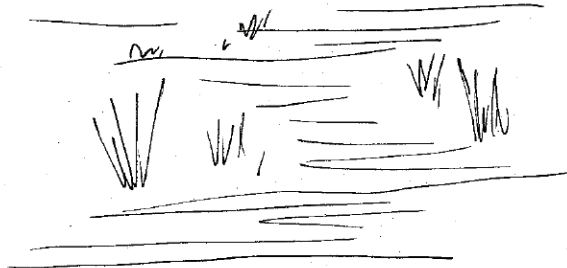


IV. Design

Design directs toward detailed exterior design bringing LASD Studio international collaboration and experience.

At LASD Studio we believe that Design by itself is a well done brainstorm leading to successful idea implementation of new function, activity, blueprint or/and improvement of the existing processes for the outdoor environment with detailed workout for the beneficial purposes of the Earth, Society and People.

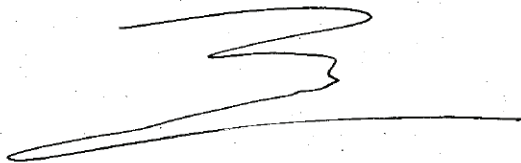
Intention of LASD Studio design is to improve existence, to help and to bring new better function to the outdoor spaces.



Principles for designing landscapes

LASD Studio operates based on the theory of five main principles. Those are Link to the Past, Holism, Creativity, Adaptability and Formlessness.

How to Design?
LASD Studio

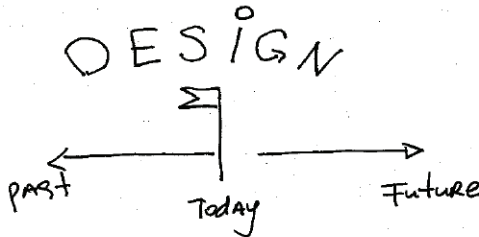


Link to the Past

‘Landscape is never finished or completed, like a can of preserves; it is an accumulation of events and stories, a continually unfolding inheritance.’ [9]

This principle emphasizes the importance of the relationship between the past and upcoming future. A link between the past and the future is important, since it tells us about the past of the place. We find the ideas that give new life to the processes of the past. In this way, we allow the evolution of the past be present in the future. This principle considers reality as a result due to the contribution of previous processes. Vroom described this principle as ‘historical continuity’ [10]. Also, Marot called this principle as ‘anamnesis’ . [11]

Link to the past is often treated as existence of the landscape before the design implementation.



Holism

The design of the landscape becomes more complex. The processes that sustain in the landscape have different and complex nature. This principle suggests to consider the whole image of the landscape rather than trying to analyze a separate process by itself.

Following this principle, the landscape system has to be viewed as wholes and as a part of a larger context, rather as separate sites, processes, elements etc. It is necessary to determine the main directions, in order to better understand the principle. The first one is the scale. A landscape consists of many smaller parts what further sustain and are parts of the larger system. Consequently, the site has to be seen as an open system for surroundings and bigger context.

The second direction is components of the landscape. Landscape system consists of many components and defines a whole system. For instance, these components are green spaces, water feature, urban infrastructure, road grid, hoses etc. These components and processes form the landscape together and identify the processes.

The last one is relations. The components and processes that caused it defined a landscape system. In this way, they complement and relate to each other.

Creativity

‘Creativity - relating to or involving the use of the imagination or original ideas to create something’ . [12]

This principle suggests that each landscape as evolutionary system is unique in terms of the design proposal. Schoon described this point like: ‘Depending on our disciplinary backgrounds, organizational roles, past histories, interests, and political/economic perspectives, we frame problematic situations in a different way.’ [13]

The principle suggests that there is simply no common creative tactics to design the landscape project. Also, the architecture is a Fine art . [14]

It is the creativity of our mind that looks for a way out of a problematic situation. This principle suggests that the landscapes as evolutionary systems do not limit but encourage the creativity.



Adaptability

This principle defines the landscape as an **evolutionary** system as unstable in the future. We try to operate in the future, based on the material reality of nowadays. However, we don't know an exact result of the design because of future unpredictable changes. Moreover, the design has to consider possible future uncertain needs. Therefore, the program has to be flexible and adjustable. Vroom described this principle as flexibility:

'The landscape is never completed or in a final stage, but keeps changing and developing as a result of natural and functional modifications. In a dynamic process of change in use and meaning the main contours are fixed, while the details may be repeatedly transformed.' [15]

In addition, any landscape as the evolutionary system has to admit open-ended strategy. Marot described this idea in 'preparation' principle:

'... Any project must assume the role of an open-ended strategy, as in staging of setting up future conditions. Being itself in a process of becoming, a landscape is fully bound into the effects of nature and time... by bringing the effects of time back to life and appearance, the designer may both restore and prepare sites for unforeseeable futures.' [16]

An evolutionary landscape system deals with integration of time and future uncertainty in the design.

Formlessness

Landscape system includes a set of processes **that are** constantly changing and evolving. The physical reality that we see also changes. Moreover, the character of the changes ongoing is uncertain. The processes that will take place in the future are also not defined. The form what we see does not carry any meaning. Vroom was one of the first to draw attention to this problem in the landscape:

‘In the city there are many forms with a pre-determined and all too obvious meaning. This can have an oppressing and even paralyzing effect on the creativity of the designers. This is why some deny the existence of a relation between form and meaning or form and context and thereby proclaim the existence of ‘formal autonomy’ . [17]

Vroom addressed this issue from the designer’s point of view. However, the formal autonomy is the result of the material world. The landscape that we see is the result of a set of processes and changes that do not carry a particular meaning.

Thus, these changes do not carry a specific stylistic direction.

At LASD Studio we concern about healing values for the ecosystem, public and individuals.

LASD Studio Summary

Healing the energy of Earth, society and people.
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About the Author

Yura Lotonenko is a landscape designer, landscape architect, urban designer and an Abstract Artist.

Yura's professional experience is combined of work experience, high level education, professional international trainings and collaboration with landscape and architect offices from Denmark, Germany, France, Holland, Canada and the United States of America – Miami and San Diego.

LASD Studio is a San Diego based landscape design, Landscape Architecture and Urban design office that delivers high-quality projects both locally and internationally as a healing total healing environments for your spirit and body energy.

Besides LASD Studio, Yura produces more than 100 garden designs for residential and commercial sites worldwide.

Yura is known as an international abstract artist with the art name of LIYRI. Abstract Art is a huge passion of his life, he created over 200 abstract paintings.

With a deep gratitude to this Universe, Society and People
and a gift of Life.

Namaste

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