THE GARDEN OF WEEDEN
My garden is a hybrid creation resulting from the principles studied in the Davis Residence designed by Martha Schwartz and the Fazenda Vargem Grande designed by Roberto Burle Marx. I wanted to focus on the composition and ecology of the two projects. The new garden context is a highly disturbed plot of land in Southern California. The modular, controlled layout of ‘rooms’ found in the Davis Residence provided a basis to organize the overall design onto a 5’ grid. The geometric rhythm of these planted and solid forms are punched through by a Burle Marx-esque ribbon path, which brings awareness to the ordered garden through its irregular interjections.

Highlighting a variety of local plant species viewed as weeds offers an opportunity to shift our perception about them. Whatever we call them, the garden aims to create an appreciation for the unique qualities these plants hold. While much effort is spent trying to eradicate these plants, my goal was to change the narrative associated with these plants into one of appreciation. Changing the context in which they grow can change how people view these plants aesthetically, and make their presence into a beautiful experience. Whether we focus on their sculptural character, texture, color, fragrance, or ability to thrive with low inputs and in disturbed areas, how these ‘weeds’ are placed within the garden affects how we interpret their presence.
SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

FIVE FOOT GRID

EXTRUDE/DEPRESS

IRREGULAR FORM
PLANT LIST

PHOENIX DACTYLIFERA- DATE PALM
Height x Spread: 50’ x 30’
Shade, Sound, Blue Fronds, Fruit, Habitat (Birds of Prey)

SERENOA REPENS- SILVER SAW PALMETTO
Height x Spread: 10’x10’
Form, Sound, Blue Fronds

CYPERUS ESCULENTIS- DWARF PAPYRUS
Height x Spread: 3’ x 3’
Water Filtration, Yellow Flowers, Soft Texture

FOeniculum vulgare- WILD FENNEL
Height x Spread: 6’ x 3’
Fragrance, Yellow Flowers, Soft Texture, Host Plant (Anise Swallowtail), Edible

BRASSICA RAPA- WILD MUSTARD
Height x Spread: 3’ x 2’
Edible, Pollinator Plant, Yellow Flower

CHAMOMILLA SUAVEOLENS- PINEAPPLEWEED
Height x Spread: 1’ x 1’
Fragrance, Yellow Flower, Pollinator Plant, Edible Herb

*Not Pictured: EUCALYPTUS POLYANTHEMOS (Silver Dollar Gum)