



A Sonoma project from *Women in the Dirt*



Soil—ready for its close-up

NO VAMPIRES. NO SUPER-HEROES. San Francisco Bay Area-based filmmaker Deborah Koons Garcia made earth the lead in her feature-length *Symphony of the Soil*, set for release this spring. In so doing, the widow of the Grateful Dead's Jerry Garcia hopes to "move people from being soil-blind to soil-conscious." Her biggest challenge was to make a complex subject come to life: "You can't just hold a piece of dirt in your hand and call it soil any more than you can cup some water and call it the sea." Garcia was also behind the acclaimed *The Future of Food*, so you might expect her next movie to be equally eco-minded. She has other plans. "Maybe I'll do a romantic comedy. All this science is fun, but it has to be accurate—I'm ready to make up stuff."

The green screen

A new crop of farm and garden documentaries is turning plants into protagonists. The latest shows that even soil can be a sexy screen star.

SYMPHONY OF THE SOIL

Deborah Koons Garcia's upcoming film (see story, far right) follows eccentric soil scientists around the world, from Norwegian glaciers to Hawaiian volcanoes, as they explore how humanity depends on healthy soil. **A must-see for:** sustainable-agriculture skeptics. DVD out next month; symphonyofthesoil.com

EDIBLE CITY

This 72-minute doc tracks the movement toward small-scale organic farms in the San Francisco Bay Area, and the people who love to eat what those growers produce. **A must-see for:** urban farmers and foodies. Watch online at ediblecitythemovie.com

WOMEN IN THE DIRT

A feature-length primer on seven influential female landscape architects from California, whose range of work includes designing ritzy residential spaces and revitalizing inner-city lots. **A must-see for:** garden-design fans and history buffs. Buy the DVD at womeninthedirt.com

BOX-OFFICE BLOOMS

Cultivate a little show-biz glamour with these celebrity hybrid-tea roses.



'CARY GRANT'

With elegant flowers that glow like fire, this head-turner is robust and low maintenance.



'ELIZABETH TAYLOR'

Voluptuous and larger than life, the beauty's deep pink blooms draw a crowd.



'MARILYN MONROE'

Roses are a girl's best friend: This has a peaches-and-cream complexion and curvaceous petals.



'BARBRA STREISAND'

Hello, gorgeous: Big, fragrant blossoms with lavender petals fill a room with their presence.