

**INTERNATIONAL PLANT EXPLORER TO GIVE INAUGURAL LECTURE
OF THE SOUTHEASERN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

October 9, 2008 -- The Southeastern Horticultural Society will present the preeminent [Tony Avent](#) at its Inaugural Lecture on November 13, 2008 at 10:00 AM. Limited seating is available at the event to take place in McElreath Hall at the Atlanta History Center on 130 West Paces Ferry Road.

It is with good reason that Tony Avent has been called the "Indiana Jones of Horticulture" by *Garden & Gun Magazine*. Indiana Jones, of course, is an archaeologist who traveled the world in search of rare and unusual treasures. Dr. Jones is fictional but Mr. Avent is quite real. This horticultural scientist is an international plant explorer and author who brings rare and unusual perennials, Hostas and native species to a wide audience of appreciative plant lovers.

He has shared his adventures in more than 500 lectures, and written compelling and detailed accounts of his plant-seeking expeditions to beautiful and exotic regions of Thailand, [Mexico](#), South Africa, Argentina, Viet Nam, Belgium, Taiwan, [Holland](#), [China](#), Korea, and across the United States. His articles and insights have appeared in *The New York Times*, on *Martha Stewart Living* and *HGTV*, and in dozens of newspapers, magazines and horticultural journals. From basic how-to articles like [Tony's Planting Tips](#) to unique classics like [Bizarre Plants Only a Mother Could Love](#), Mr. Avent has informed, educated and entertained. He is the author of [So You Want to Start a Nursery](#), and has contributed to and been featured in several other books.

Mr. Avent is a groundbreaking innovator in the field, having hybridized Hostas since 1984, and has won prestigious awards from respected organizations including the American Horticulture Society, Men's Garden Club of America, North American Rock Garden Society and Southeastern Flower Show. His article, [Tony's Top Ten Hosta Myths](#), is considered to be the Holy Grail by Hosta lovers.

**To purchase tickets, call 404.351.1074 or email info@sehort.org.
Tickets are \$15.00 for Southeastern Horticultural Society members and \$20.00 for non-members.**

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To schedule media interviews with Mr. Avent, contact Alan Ulman at 404.660.1551 or alan@haystackgroup.com

The Southeastern Horticultural Society (SHS), a non-profit membership organization dedicated to promoting the knowledge, art and enjoyment of horticulture throughout the Southeastern United States.

For more information on the Southeastern Horticultural Society and its signature event, The Southeastern Flower Show, visit www.sehort.org and www.flowershow.org