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**Myriam Uzor** is an architect. Since 2018, she has been a research associate at the Chair of Landscape Architecture of Christophe Girot at ETH Zurich, where she has worked on various teaching and research projects. Alongside her architectural and academic activities, she pursues an interest in the performing arts and has been involved in several performance, theatre and dance projects.

**Saskia de Wit** is a landscape architect and assistant professor at the Technical University of Delft. She holds a master's degree from Wageningen University and a doctorate from TU Delft. She combines teaching and research with practice at her own firm, Saskia de Wit tuin en landschap. Her research focuses on the garden as a core concept of the field of landscape architecture, as expressed in her recent publication *Hidden Landscapes* (2018), which ties the concept of the enclosed garden as an expression of landscape to contemporary urban developments.

## Drawings

**12** Plan after Roman Ghirshman, in: *Fouilles de Sialk*, vol. 1, Paris 1938, PL. XXXV.

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This pamphlet is the fruit of an inspiring and unforgettable journey through the extraordinary landscapes of Iran. Our thanks go to everyone whose contribution made this unique experience possible and guided us through deserts and gardens.

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FF, MU

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**Saskia de Wit** is a landscape architect and assistant professor at TU Delft. She holds a Masters degree from Wageningen University and a PhD from TU Delft.

Gardens throughout history have elicited intangible fascination. Mystical beauty and a poetic sense for eternal longing are intrinsic to the long tradition of the Persian Garden. It was these values that formed the foundation for all Western gardens that have followed, even giving us the word 'paradise', the setting for the biblical Garden of Eden. Deriving from the Zoroastrian culture, the Avestan word *pairidaēza* simply means 'walled around'.

To the outside world today, Iran's image is marked by political and cultural ambiguity. Yet it is in the gardens of this arid country where one can experience its Persian heritage most vividly. Lying solitary and almost untouched by time in the sparse landscape between the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf, the gardens still serve as places for quiet contemplation.

*Lost in Paradise* offers different interpretations of the walled garden and aims to reconcile contemporary events with the enigmatic notion of paradise.

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