Andy Cao and Xavier Perrot of cao | perrot studio will introduce their work and their latest installation, Cloud Terrace, for the Arbor Terrace in the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens. They have a stunning list of projects to their credit, including temporary site-specific installations at the American Academy in Rome; the Potager du Roi, Versailles; the Tuileries, Paris; the Medici Fountain in the Luxembourg Gardens; and at many of the world’s leading garden festivals. cao | perrot studio are also responsible for the winning design of 600-acre Guangming New Town Central Park in Shenzhen, China, a collaboration with Lee + Mundwiler Architects which received an AIA 2009 National Honor Award for Urban Design.

Cloud Terrace at Dumbarton Oaks takes the form of a hand-sculpted wire mesh cloud suspended over the terrace and embellished with 10,000 genuine SWAROVSKI ELEMENTS water-drop crystals mirrored in a reflecting pool. The Arbor Terrace is one of the most modified spaces in the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens. Originally designed by Beatrix Farrand in the early 1930s as a simple rectangular herb garden bordered on the west by a wisteria-covered arbor and on the east and north by a hedge of Kieffer pears, it was refashioned by Farrand’s former associate Ruth Havey in the 1950s as a pot garden centered on a Rococo-style parterre with low, Doria stone parapet walls. The space can be hot and bright; cao | perrot’s installation is a response to these conditions, extending the shade of the arbor across the terrace and animating the space inside the parterre with an oval pool surrounded by green glass pebbles.

This installation was organized by the Garden and Landscape Studies program at Dumbarton Oaks in cooperation with the Gardens Department, and made with SWAROVSKI ELEMENTS.

Reservations are required and are first come, first serve. Please RSVP to: Landscape@doaks.org or 202-339-6460.

The lecture will be held in the Music Room at Dumbarton Oaks’s Main House located at 1703 32nd Street, NW, Washington DC. The lecture is open to the public without charge. A light reception to follow in the gardens. Parking not provided.