



2025 RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW BALCONY AND CONTAINER GARDEN EXHIBITORS

Please note: All information is provided by exhibitors and is subject to change.
For images and further information including full planting lists, please contact showspr@rhs.org.uk

1) *A Space to Read Balcony Garden sponsored by Viking*

Sponsor: Viking
Designer: Freddie Strickland and Ben Gifford

Media Contact: Carys Bedford and Bryony Gammon
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Designed as an external reading room for passionate gardeners, this garden is designed to evoke the feeling of an intimate sanctuary – a place to get lost amongst plants whilst reading. Comfortable armchair style seats and subtle lighting are integrated into a thoughtful collection of popular plants, with small potted plants adorning the wall mounted shelving. A raised planter with stylish storage options for books and day-to-day items is a key feature, inspiring visitors to make the most of small spaces with forward-thinking solutions.



A large tree conceals the boundaries that restrict the balcony, giving the illusion of a more expansive space, while a magnificent flowering *Cornus kousa* takes centre stage, setting the tone for a harmonious space to read within. Handmade terracotta pots from Italy and antique copper pots originally used in industrial factories add visual interest to the space and add to the lush abundance of the garden, illustrating how pots can provide more planting opportunities for the urban gardener.

Planting/Colour Scheme

The garden utilises a verdant planting scheme, with accent colours of white, pink and soft yellow.

Geranium sylvaticum 'Album' is repeated throughout the design, as a reliable and beautiful perennial with a long season of interest, while *Bergenia ciliata* add an unusual texture to the planting with their deeply veined and hairy leaves.

Relocation

The garden will be repurposed to several different spaces and new homes.

2) C6

Sponsor: Navium Marine Ltd
Designer: Joshua Fenton
Contractor: Fenton Gardens Ltd

Media Contact: Joshua Fenton

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C6 is a finely tuned environmental garden, dedicated to carbon sequestration, water recycling and the promotion of wildlife, whilst remaining a calming and sophisticated space.

The garden is able to sequester over 1200kg of carbon, promoting three ways in which gardeners can do this in any space. The use of biochar improves the soil quality whilst also sequestering carbon for up to a thousand years. The garden incorporates planters made of charred oak, locking carbon up for the lifespan of the planter, an estimated eighty years. Crucially, the planting of fast growing trees and herbaceous perennials gives the designer the opportunity to harvest the new growth and convert it to biochar, and in doing so, sequestering the carbon in the plant material.



As visitors enter the garden, they will see a copper tank set into one of the charred oak planters, which gently trickles into a rill running diagonally across the space. This is a key element of the garden's passive irrigation system. Water reservoirs in the bottom of the planters are topped up with water runoff from the roof, which in turn overflows to the rill, which overflows into the permeable area surrounding the rill, returning to the water table.

Against the wall, a bronze sculpture shows negative space within a closed hand, creating a focal point and representing the negative space in biochar that makes it beneficial when mixed in with soil.

Planting and Colour Scheme

Utilising 'chaos planting' this garden has an abundance of fast growing trees and herbaceous perennials, with the overarching theme of plants that promote carbon sequestration. Hazel and apple trees contribute a tranquil dappled shade to the garden, while the latter will also blossom and fruit in an attractive way. Wisteria blooms will wrap around the garden, while *Miscanthus* provides texture and movement to the planting.

The colour scheme is predominantly lush greens, with the delicate lilac of wisteria and the vibrant blue flowers of *Echium vulgare* adding splashes of colour.

3) Komorebi Garden

Sponsor: Hamptons
Designer: Masa Taniguchi
Contractor: Garden Club London

Media Contact: Tony Woods

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This garden takes its inspiration from komorebi, a Japanese word to describe the way sunlight pierces through a tree canopy and the dappled shade it creates. Visitors are invited to lie down on the wooden platform, surrounded by a verdant canopy of trees, protecting them from the busy urban life beyond the garden. Looking above them, they will experience the dappled sunlight of komorebi, as the patterns of light dance throughout the garden.



This garden has been designed to encourage moments of meditation and contemplation, inspired by the designer's childhood memories of visiting forests in Nagano, Japan. A series of *Betula pendula* trees, with their stark white trunks stand out against the dark background of the shady garden, reminiscent of Japanese forests. The use of traditional Japanese tea ceremony materials, like charcoal, to improve the air quality emphasises the sense of tranquillity within the garden and reiterates the modern aesthetic of the design, as traditional elements are utilised in a modern way.

Planting and Colour Scheme

The design features naturalistic planting with a dark green colour scheme as the garden focuses on contrasting sizes, textures and forms of foliage in the garden.

Fargium japonicum provides a lush forest feel to the garden with its deep green and shiny round leaves, while *Disporum longistylum* 'Night Heron' has long stalks which give a sense of height and bring depth to the garden, with black emerging stems that compliment the dark landscape materials in the design.

4) Secret Base – The Another Green Room

Sponsor: Glion Group
Designer: Jun Ishihara
Contractor: Daikanyama Kadan Co.

Media Contact: Junko Hara

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This garden has been designed as a traditional Japanese tsuboniwa, or courtyard garden, inspired by biophilic design to harmonise with nature. Designed as a secret hideaway, visitors will find themselves immersed in trees, with the soothing soundtrack of running water.

Carefully curated by the designer to inventively use the limited space, plants of various sizes have been arranged to create a sense of depth, making the garden feel larger than it is. The garden is immersive, with plants



placed overhead, innovative planting that conceals the artificial shape of the space and vertical greening installed on the house wall. The latter also serves to improve the insulation of the home, to reduce CO₂ emissions. The garden features minimal artificial paving, opting for greenery instead, and the pathways incorporate the traditional Japanese technique of uchimizu, which is the practice of sprinkling water in gardens and streets, to bring a refreshing atmosphere to the environment.

Planting and Colour Scheme

The garden will feature a number of deciduous trees, and a variety of seasonal plants to create year-round interest. Maple trees, *Ekianthus lour*, *Nandina* and *Dryopteris erythrosora* have been chosen by the designer to evoke a Japanese ambience and to recreate the essence of traditional Japanese garden design.

5) MS Amlin Peace of Mind Garden

Sponsor: MS Amlin

Designer: Hamzah-Adam Desai

Contractor: Triston Dominique

Media Contact: Hamzah-Adam Desai

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This garden is inspired by the psychology of colour, a scientific field that aims to understand the impact of colour on human perception, and the designer's own journey into horticulture and his discovery of the positive impact colour therapy with plants could have on his mental wellbeing and mood. The garden has a pared back design with a simple layout to avoid the space becoming cramped or overfilled, with seating constructed with reclaimed pavers to encourage visitors to sit and experience the benefits of colour therapy for themselves.



Colour has an inherent ability to influence how we feel, and contrasting leaf textures, shapes and flower colours are utilised within this garden to illustrate the therapeutic effects of being connected to nature. The planting has been designed to reference a colour wheel with complementary planting principles applied, to show what can be achieved with containers to create a garden border effect in a small space.

The garden's aim is to share the message that 'we tend to plants and they tend to us'.

Planting and Colour Scheme

Plants have been chosen for their seasonal colour interest and to apply colour therapy theories to the design. *Geum* 'Totally Tangerine' have red-tinted orange flowers, with a long flowering season from late spring to autumn, while *Euphorbia x martini* 'Rudolph' is a striking evergreen with leathery dark green leaves, which develops bright red blush tips in autumn for winter interest, and blooms lime-green flowers in spring and summer.

6) Room to Breathe Hospital Garden for the TSA

Supporter: The Tuberous Sclerosis Association (TSA)
Designer: Jen Donnelly and Catherine Gibbon
Contractor: The Landscape Group

Media Contact: Jane Southcott

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Designed with a hospital courtyard in mind, the Room to Breathe Hospital Garden for the TSA has been created for parents and caregivers of those living with tuberous sclerosis as a restorative retreat that offers solace in nature. Every aspect of the garden has been thoughtfully designed to help caregivers recharge and face the challenges of their situation with renewed energy.



A cocoon-like feature chair cradles visitors to the garden, offering a warm embrace and a sense of security, and an angled pergola evokes the subtle disorientation carers face, reflecting their need for realignment in challenging moments. The garden has been designed with therapeutic benefits in mind, highlighting biophilia – the concept of connecting people to nature. The garden showcases how a striking, verdant and immersive environment can be created even in a small area with careful planting choices, to provide a calming retreat.

This garden is inspired by the designers' personal experiences, and through their volunteer work at Amersham Hospital they have witnessed firsthand the restorative power of outdoor spaces and the importance of green initiatives in hospital gardens. The garden highlights the emotional toll of supporting a child with tuberous sclerosis and serves as a sanctuary for caregivers – a much-needed 'Room to Breathe'.

Planting and Colour Scheme

The planting palette features calming greens to promote tranquillity, with splashes of burgundy amidst the greenery to represent carers' resilience through adversity and whites serving as a guiding light through darker times.

The planting scheme utilises layering, plant repetition and the use of focal points to achieve interest and cohesion, maximising verticality with its pergola structure and specimen acer trees.

Relocation

The garden will be recreated at the Amersham Hospital in Buckinghamshire, in the Neurology Rehabilitation Unit.

7) Fettercairn Wilderness Retreat

Sponsor: Fettercairn
Designers: Sonia Kamel, Sally Giles, Helier Bowling
Contractor: RAAFT

Media Contact: Helier Bowling

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This garden is inspired by the wilderness of the Scottish landscape, with wild and verdant planting reminiscent of the Cairngorms landscape. Designed to ignite the senses and invigorate the soul, it echoes the grassy heathland, rocky outcrops and mossy glens and will transport the visitor to this stunning wilderness.



The garden serves as a reminder to visitors that embracing nature's extremities – wind, cold water and exposing conditions – can be bracingly beneficial for your health and happiness. It takes inspiration from the Cairngorms community work and heritage, with a striking copper bath feature for cold water dips, fed by sculptural copper pipes to provide visual interest and the relaxing soundtrack of moving water. Inspired by the copper stills and curling pipes of Scotland's historic distilleries, the copper bath celebrates the holistic trend of cold water bathing. A sheltered wall seat provides a space to relax against a decorative oak panel.

Planting and Colour Scheme

The colours of the Cairngorms in spring are reflected in the planting of the garden, with the green grasses of the grasslands, the pinks of the heathers and *Silene* and the yellow of the *Cytisus* evoking the Scottish heath.

The garden will also showcase *Linnaea borealis*, a rare mat forming flower which is being reintroduced to the Cairngorms, and a windswept *Pinus sylvestris*. These plants have been chosen to represent the plant community areas that exist in the Cairngorms, a surprisingly similar environment to an exposed urban balcony.

Relocation

After RHS Chelsea Flower Show, the garden will be relocated to Nethermill House at the Fettercairn distillery.

8) The ME+EM City Garden

Sponsor: ME+EM

Designers: Caroline and Peter Clayton

Contractor: Phil Sutton Landscapes

Media Contact: Caroline Clayton

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This garden is designed to be a space where design meets purpose, reflecting beauty, functionality and enduring quality to create a space to detox from technology and recharge the soul.

Generous-sized planters clad in moss green and soft pink bejmat tiles are densely planted with fragrant plants and those perfect for cut flowers in order to create a soothing retreat for the senses and to bring the beauty of nature into the home. A small tile-clad seat provides the ideal spot to relax and watch the sunset.



An enamel-coated pergola will be a central feature of the garden, matched to the rich tones of the tiles and draped in climbing plants. Suspended underneath will be a striking orb light, casting a soft arm glow onto a bespoke daybed, perfect for unwinding within nature. A shelf on the wall holds space for candles and incense.

Planting and Colour Scheme

The garden will utilise a resilient planting design to cope with increased climatic extremes and will be filled with plants perfect for growing your own cut flowers, such as sweetpeas. Ornamental grasses will also feature heavily, with layered grasses planted around the daybed to catch the evening light.

9) Navium Marine: Blue Mind Garden

Sponsor: Navium Marine
Designers: Ashleigh Aylett
Contractor: Hortus London

Media Contact: Ashleigh Aylett

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Inspired by the 'blue mind', a sense of calm that is brought on from a close proximity to water, this garden explores our deep connection to water as humans and the positive impact it brings to our well-being. The design reimagines how the aspects of water can be thoughtfully integrated into small spaces to create a sense of serenity in an urban environment.

Ripple-effect cladding in the garden mimics the flow of water, creating wave-like light reflections, whilst a water feature creates soothing sounds besides a reflective pool. Resilient drought-tolerant plants feature amidst floor tiles and pots created from discarded seashells from restaurants, demonstrating innovative ways to repurpose ocean materials.



Planting and Colour Scheme

The garden utilises resilient coastal planting in muted blue and green tones. Drought-tolerant plants such as Sea buckthorn and Artemisia highlight the shift towards plants that thrive in tough conditions and require less maintenance and water. The garden also features The Olla irrigation system, an ancient technique that gently releases water to plant roots.

Relocation

The garden is set to be relocated to an area near to the Plymouth Aquarium, home to the Ocean Conservation Trust.

10) *Bees for Development - Making Life Better With Bees*

Sponsor: Bees for Development

Designers: Jenny Rafferty, Frantisek Zika, Jim Goodman

Contractor: EH Thorne Ltd

Media Contact: Jenny Handley

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Step into a world of colour, nature, and sustainability. Inspired by Africa and the deep connection between bees, people, and biodiversity, this urban retreat transforms even a small space into a haven for pollinators. The garden features traditional English and African beehives, creatively integrated to highlight the role of bees in addressing biodiversity loss, climate change, and poverty.



Key features include a striking hexagonal bench for privacy, a feature wall with vertical planting and solitary bee habitats, and planters crafted from repurposed honey barrels and beehives. This balcony garden is a call to action, demonstrating how even the smallest spaces can support bees and biodiversity, aligning with Bees for Development's mission to create a better world through sustainable beekeeping.

Planting and Colour Scheme

An oak trunk near the entrance showcases traditional African beehives, weaving cultural heritage into a contemporary setting. Vibrant, pollinator-friendly plants—such as *Agapanthus*, *Kniphofia*, and *Gleditsia triacanthos* 'Rubylace'—thrive in peat-free compost, ensuring colour and nectar throughout the seasons. Nasturtium provides abundant colour through peach and cream tones.

Relocation

Hard landscaping elements of the balcony garden will be re-purposed and relocated at Bees for Development's apiary and EH Thorne. Soft landscaping elements will be taken back by the grower.