

2024 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) *The Addleshaw Goddard Junglette Garden - Balcony Garden*

Sponsor: Addleshaw Goddard
Designer: Mike McMahon & Jewlsy Mathews
Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes
Sub-Contractor: Mike McMahon Studio

Media contact name: Mike McMahon

Media contact details: mike@mikemcmahonstudio.com / 07891824089

Inspired by the sponsor's own balconies in King's Cross, London, the design provides a serene sanctuary, shielding residents from the city's relentless commotion. The hardy tropical planting mirrors the structural layers of the jungle: the emergent, canopy, understory, and forest floor.

Nestled within, a seating area is cocooned by cascading flora, evoking the splendour of a colossal hanging basket. The plant selection is a tribute to the designers' global jungle adventures and Jewlsy's ancestral home in Kerala, India. A striking folded back wall, crafted from recycled paper, echoes the jungle's strata, infusing the space with depth. The chairs "Unfurl Paper" are inspired by the unfurling of young fern fronds and were designed and created in-house. The garden promotes biodiversity with bird nests, integrated bat boxes and a small pond.



The art of geometry threads seamlessly through the garden's design, harmonising nature with aesthetics, creating an imaginative and impactful space of uncompromising quality. In essence, the message of this garden is that a small outdoor space is limited only by the boundaries of imagination.

Planting/Colour Scheme

The heart of the balcony will be primarily greens with splashes of colour around the decking area. The wrap around the edge of the garden will have colour. The garden's position in central London allows more exotic plants such as *Sphaeropteris cooperi*, *Colocasia* and *Begonia luxurians* to flourish.

Plants have been carefully selected for their elegant and dramatic foliage, serving to recreate the jungle strata. The tree ferns manifest the emergent layer, while the *Fatsia* form the canopy layer. The foliage will form captivating shadows upon the backdrop of the folded recycled paper back wall.

2) La Mia Venezia – Balcony Garden

Designer: Michela Trinca

Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes

Sub-Contractor: Kate Gould Gardens

Media contact name: Michela Trinca

Media contact details: michela@kategouldgardens.com / 07801734727

Designed as an imagined balcony in the UK, overlooking a main garden and farther canal views. The garden is an homage to Venice, a place frequented as a child and so has a sense of nostalgia. The vibrant use of plants creates an intimate space, and the plants showcased highlight how a balcony can have a unique microclimate, allowing more unusual plants to thrive where they may not in an exposed garden setting.



The use of overhanging plants and a pergola make full use of the space, creating an enveloped outdoor room essentially, where lighting, water and plants capture the imagination. The pergola frames views out as well as painting a picture for passers-by.

The design enhances your surroundings from within, whilst allowing it to spill out for others to enjoy.

Planting/Colour Scheme

The planting palette is vibrant, encouraging experimentation and diversity.

The bougainvillea was chosen as the feature climber, with its colourful bracts, whilst lemon trees create structure in the bigger pots. Salvias have been chosen to attract pollinating insects and add vibrancy to the colour scheme and *Rhaphiolepis*, an often underused evergreen shrub with very pretty pink flowers and glossy evergreen leaves, also features in the garden. The planting has been designed to ensure that there will be something of interest all year round.

3) Tomie's Cuisine the Nobonsai - Balcony Garden

Sponsor: Tomie's Cuisine, Alice Garden Design, Takehiro, Niwaki,
Designer: Tsuyako Asada
Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes

Media contact name: *Hitomi Le Jeune*

Media contact details: nobonsai@tomiescuisine.co.uk

The theme of this garden is "a piece of the landscape of nature". "Tomie's Cuisine the Nobonsai" is dedicated to promoting living together with fungi, microorganisms and animals. This balcony garden contains innovative plastic-free, chemical-free, and sustainable gardening methods.



The designers wish to inspire visitors with their "no-waste gardening" method. Instead of disposing of garden waste, they reuse pruned twigs, stems, weeds, and leaves by cutting them into small pieces and placing them on the soil's surface. This method retains soil moisture, promotes bacteria growth, and enhances mycorrhizal fungi development, making plants healthier and reducing the need for chemical fertilisers. Additionally, it will soften the soil, eliminating the need for soil cultivation.

This garden also includes some edible plants. A yuzu citrus tree is the most prominent in this balcony garden, but there is also a hazelnut tree, fig tree, blueberry and many other edible kitchen herbs.

Planting/Colour Scheme

The primary colour scheme of this garden is made up of yellows, blues and purples, with the *Isatis tinctoria*'s yellow flowers and *Angelica archangelica*'s purple stems provide the accent colours.

The unsung heroes in this garden are the fungi, bacteria and microorganisms. These essential elements are necessary for a garden and keeping them from disappearing or decreasing is the whole point behind making a sustainable garden.

4) The Water Saving Garden, sponsored by Affinity Water

Sponsor: Affinity Water
Designer: Sam Proctor
Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes
Sub-Contractor: Castle Landscapes

Media contact name: *Sam Proctor*

Media contact details: info@chilterngardendesign.com / 07733265626

This contemporary courtyard space has water saving measures at its heart, featuring interconnected sleek planters fed with rainwater.

The garden is a love letter to the Chilterns' iconic chalk streams, highlighting the urgent need to save and re-use rainwater, a cause championed by Affinity Water's Save Our Streams campaign. The sound of running water, with timber walkways amongst lush restful planting give a nod to the landscape of our chalk streams. With temperatures hitting record highs, drought and hosepipe bans, the effects of climate change have started to hit home in recent summers.



A series of interconnected self-watering planters are hooked up to the building's rainwater gutters via rain chains and slimline water butts, and contain 'self-watering tankers' that store rainwater and deliver it to the roots by capillary action. Self-watering systems need watering less frequently than normal surface watering. Tanker systems reduce the amount of water needed, delivering water right to the roots where it's needed, with less surface evaporation, and with less water stress to plants, they grow more strongly, with denser root systems and healthier above ground growth.

All of the planters are made of the same material, in the same colour and matching the water butts too. Their dark colour helps to act as a foil for the foreground planting. The timber elements are all the same material and frame the succulent artwork, as well as tying the garden together. A limited array of plants in just a few colours are repeated through the planting, bouncing the eye around the space and helping it to feel bigger than it is.

Planting/Colour Scheme

The theme is water and the colour scheme is blue and white, amongst fresh textures of green foliage. Statement plants include *Cornus kousa* and *Camassia*, as well as succulent living wall art.

The planters themselves are all large enough to grow a mix of different plants, and help to make the space feel organised rather than jumbled. The garden also uses the vertical surfaces to grow, not just the horizontal surfaces – a scented climber is entwined up and around copper piping attached to the wall, and succulent wall art forms a growing living backdrop to the seating area.

5) mgr Changing Tides Garden

Sponsor: mgr

Designer: Lucy Mitchell

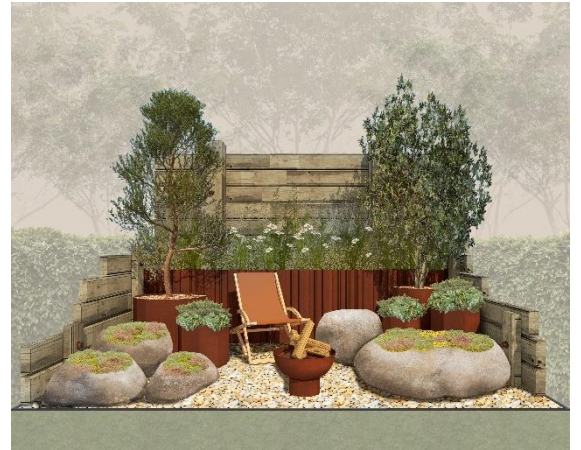
Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes

Media contact name: Lucy Mitchell

Media contact details: lucy@lalalandscapes.co.uk / 07989966445

The mgr Changing Tides Garden is a coastal garden inspired by the rare habitats found along the strandline of the UK's vegetated shingle beaches, here just beyond the normal reach of the waves a few plants can form a row of vegetation, a risky life where one storm too many could eradicate them for ever.

The focal point for the garden are the clusters of Kent ragstone boulders, hand sculpted into planters, home to these specially adapted plants. The boundary is designed to evoke the aesthetic of a coastal groyne made from reclaimed weathered timber and rusty steel detailing, designed to conjure up the feeling of dramatic coastal weather, while providing a protective boundary to hunker down from the prevailing winds. In keeping with the theme, large planters are made from repurposed steel piles, highlighting the speciality plants, adapted to living in the toughest conditions.



The garden is inspired by nature, and the overall aesthetic is very organic, using plants that occur naturally in coastal habitats. Although it is inspired by natural and wild landscapes it is curated and controlled. The plants used are tough and drought tolerant, reducing the amount of watering that is usually required by containers.

Planting/Colour Scheme

Most of the plants used are specialist plants, adapted to extreme conditions (drenched in sea salt, battered by strong winds, in poor soil and blazing sunlight). The muted pallet allows the eye to wander gently, and reduces the scale of plants in the foreground, while enhancing the sense of space.

6) The Anywhere Courtyard Garden

Sponsor: Luxe Unique, Living Walls, ICS Chimney Sweeping Group

Designer: Elisabeth Wright-McCalla

Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes

Media contact name: Elisabeth Wright-McCalla

Media contact details: elisabethwrightmccalla@gmail.com / 07503174623

The garden was designed to transform an unloved piece of concrete or land into a vibrant yet calming and restorative place. At its heart is a central water feature surrounded by a living wall. On either side, trees form a natural canopy of gentle shade. A tiled courtyard continues the symmetry theme with seating framed on either side, incorporating a sensory mix of herbal and perennial plants, along with an evergreen structure to create a year-round space.



The garden is designed to be modular and practical, with raised beds forming the back of the seating and the seating providing built-in storage. The design seamlessly brings together

land, water, space, and life, resulting in a serene and bright courtyard that provides both seclusion and a sense of wholeness.

Planting/Colour Scheme

This design means a sensory and protected place can be created in a small area anywhere. The seating amongst calming and sensory plants with the backdrop of a waterfall connects you to the natural world.

The planting includes lemon verbena, an edible herbal plant that has a delicious smell, which can be used in cocktails, teas or for cooking. *Delosperma cooperi* is a tender succulent but can survive winters in the south east, and is perfect for trailing down the side of containers.

7) The Ecotherapy Garden

Designer: Tom Bannister

Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes

Sub-Contractor: Wright Landscapes

Media contact name: Tom Bannister

Media contact details: tom@tombannisterstudio.com / 07938876203

This intimate garden provides a quiet retreat, seamlessly integrating hard landscaping, nature, and wellness to highlight the benefits of ecotherapy. A cold plunge pool enveloped in lush planting is the centrepiece of the garden where the clear water reflects the surrounding greenery. Imagined as a small London courtyard, a Thames yellow brick wall serves as a backdrop, supporting a hanging green garden that aligns with biophilic principles. A trio of antique waterspouts emerge through the green wall, feeding into a series of pools and cascades. A rill passes through the planting leading into a final cascade, the sound of the water creating a soothing water soundscape.



The space aims to rejuvenate physical and mental wellbeing. After a cold plunge, a bench offers a place for contemplation. The hyper-tufa containers have been handmade by the designer and have a weathered texture. The containers highlight gardening versatility in confined spaces whilst celebrating the gardener-craft relationship.

Planting/Colour Scheme

Three *Crataegus monogyna* multi-stem trees create a canopy in the garden. They respond very well to pruning so can be kept compact in small spaces. They will cope with lots of air pollution and are happy in wet or dry soils.

Another plant that will feature will be *Erigeron karvinskianus*. It has a long flowering period, from May to October, and is amazingly versatile, being low-growing, happy in sun or partial shade, and thriving in any well-drained soil. The variety of ferns grow well in containers as well, especially in shady areas.

The colours will be mainly green with splashes of pink and white running through the planting.

8) Raines Repurposed

Sponsor: Children With Cancer UK

Designer: Thomas Clarke

Contractor: Big Fish Landscapes

Media contact name: Tamara Faires-Back

Media contact details: tamara.faires-back@childrenwithcancer.org.uk / 07881 097 899

A shaded seating area provides a place to relax and enjoy the scented flowers and gentle movement from the surrounding grasses. The clear lines and simple colour palette create a calming, uncluttered and practical space for reflection.

The garden has many elements created from repurposing materials found on the site of old farm buildings and nearby felled trees, including the seating and the handmade floor tiles. The garden demonstrates that recycled authentic materials can become something beautiful and practical in another form.



Planting/Colour Scheme

Soft evergreen planting, with muted tones of pinks and burgundy, lies beneath the statement multi-stem *Taxus baccata*.

9) Sanctum

Designer: Sonja Kalkschmidt

Contractor: Rupert Crowton Rowarth

Media contact name: Sonja Kalkschmidt

Media contact details: silvabarns@mail.co.uk / 07375 793823

Sanctum is a retreat that offers an oasis amidst the chaos of contemporary corporate life. This minimal, pod-like sanctuary, easily assembled in a variety of locations, features a striking black charred wood pod at its centre. This key element not only creates a visual contrast with the lush green foliage but also establishes a tactile connection with nature, enriching the overall sensory experience.

As a tranquil refuge, Sanctum provides a space to momentarily escape the relentless digital bombardment and hectic pace of corporate life, offering a chance to rejuvenate mentally and physically in nature's soothing embrace. Sanctum highlights the importance of incorporating natural elements into corporate environments for a more balanced, health-conscious work atmosphere.



Planting/Colour Scheme

Sanctum stands out for its innovative approach to corporate green spaces, particularly in its ability to transform small, underutilised areas into serene havens. Its focus on plants suitable for shaded environments makes it ideal for city spaces, often lacking in sunlight.

English larch, known for its durability and natural beauty, becomes even more resilient when charred using the Shou Sugi Ban technique. This traditional Japanese method of charring not only preserves the wood without harmful chemicals but also strengthens its resistance to weather and pests. The charred English larch in Sanctum not only captures carbon, aiding in carbon sequestration efforts, but also displays how combining traditional techniques with local materials can result in a beautiful, durable, and environmentally responsible garden design.

The majority of the plants have been selected for their green foliage in various textures, with occasional subdued hints of colour.