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The Newt
In Somerset

2024 RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW FLORISTRY & FLORAL DESIGN

There are two categories of floral exhibits in the Great Pavilion in 2024. Creative Spaces have no rules, or themes, they are an opportunity for florists to have free rein over their own unique display. They are not judged for RHS medals but are applicable for the Floristry Ambassador's Choice Award. Floral Creations is a brand-new category with smaller arrangements, mounted on plinths. The theme for 2024 is 'colour'. These displays are judged for RHS medals and are applicable to win the RHS Chelsea Florist of the Year.

Please note: All information is provided by exhibitors and is subject to change.

For images and/or to be put in touch with any of the exhibitors, please contact showspr@rhs.org.uk

FLORAL CREATION

Opera Splendor: A Floral Ode

Florist: Bonnie Chu

Instagram: @bonnie.chu.94

Inspired by the message that the greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it, this colourful, naturalistic waste bin design has sustainability at its heart. The flowers were grown at the designers' flower farm with fresh ranunculus, peony, anemone, allium and apple blossom woven with dried flowers. Meanwhile, 24 natural clock faces highlight the urgent nature of the climate emergency: every hour counts. The flower bin is raised off the ground by a rebar frame made by a local farrier, illustrating the contrast between industry and nature.

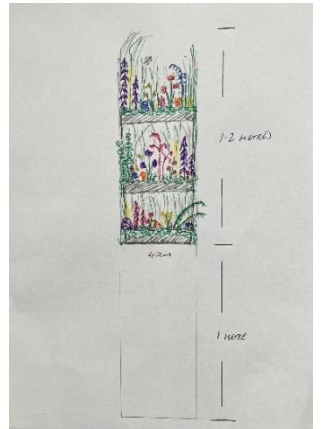


Natures Spectrum

Florist: Allison Hood

Instagram: @allison_hood_flower_school @allison_hood_florist

Inspired by light, life, nature and emotion, the piece 'Natures Spectrum' celebrates the colour and beauty of seasonal British grown flowers. Symbolising occasions where, throughout history, flowers have played a significant role e.g. birth, life and death - visitors will see a three-tiered elevated circular pillar linked and intertwined with branches, vines and cascading blooms. Small pieces of mirror are hidden within the design to reflect the past and present, light and colour. The upward climbing design will represent the eternal circle of life, rejuvenation, and the cyclical regularity of nature itself. Included are small insects crafted from dried seed pods, leaves, seeds and twigs from Allison's garden. Constructed using re-purposed wire, they represent the fleeting lifespan and importance of pollinators in our gardens and growing spaces.



Spectrum of Fire

Florist: Lara Thorpe

Sponsor: Wild at Heart

Website: <https://wildatheart.com/>

This design features a willow structure to mimic flames adorned with flowers in tones of red, orange and yellow, placed on charred timber to represent the damage that fire causes. After the destruction wildfires caused last summer, the designer want to show that fire can be beautiful but also destructive. The message this piece delivers is that the world is a fragile place and climate change is something that should be a personal interest to everyone and if we all play a small part a big difference can be made.

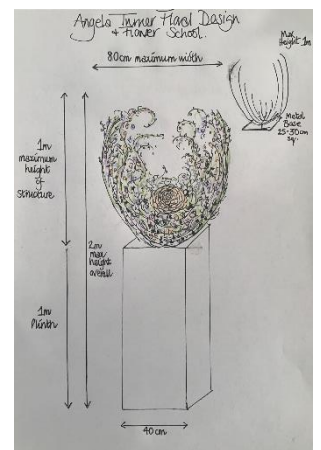


Inner Peace

Florist: Angela Turner

Instagram: @angelaturnerfloraldesign

Recognising the need for calm amongst the chaos, an inner stillness and a connection to nature remains strong. This creation reflects desire for a quiet moment for contemplation amidst life's hustle - beautiful British flowers, delicate vine-like materials and grasses protecting and cocooning the focal rose feature, embedded within, representing 'inner peace'. This rose will be a handmade 'Carmen Rose'; a distinctive composite flower crafted using numerous petals of several roses and very carefully assembled to make one large flower. Each petal must be treated with respect and nurtured to create this extraordinary floral form. The choice of the palest tones was made as they portray the hush sometimes craved and give a nod to these quiet, gentle and sympathetic colours - the often-undervalued introverts of the colour world.



Peach Perfect

Florist: Nicola Hill

Website: www.gentleblooms.co.uk

Peach is the designer's favourite spring colour, so the design celebrates peach flowers. The design sits in an urn, with a framework of willow to support the flowers that rises out of the urn and swirls around like music flowing out. Climbers such as sweet peas and jasmine twirl around this willow framework. The design incorporates an abundance of flowers in shades of peach such as foxgloves, ranunculus, sweet peas, geums and colibri poppies – which are all British seasonal flowers and grown by the designer. They are supported with foliage and harmonious colours such as white, purple and pink.



Natures Botanical Palette

Florist: Sarah Horne & Team

Website: www.sarahhornebotanicals.com

The design is an ambitious interpretation of the glorious array of colours and botanicals to be found in the natural world. It is a fascinating fusion of sculpture and floral design. The main emphasis of this piece is the glorious array of flowers and plants which our planet affords us. The technical challenge of bringing all these glorious colours together in one design was addressed by the designer with the use of the Japanese colour methodology of 'natural harmony'. Taking tiny steps in tint, tone hue and shade, the viewer is taken on a joyous, mindful journey through the spectrum.



Glazes

Florist: Rebekah Critchlow

Website: www.elderandwild.com

This display draws from the designer's fine art background, responding to the theme of 'colour'. The use of blended, fluid layers of colour by impressionist and Romantic movement painters radiates an evanescent quality; this inspired the designer to explore the way that floral composition and colour layering can work together. A painter's palette tells a compelling story purely through colour and the designer considers the display to be a floating collection of floral 'palettes'. The design's aim is to evoke a response to the natural beauty, texture, and colour of British flowers through a layered piece consisting of softened, hazy outlines.

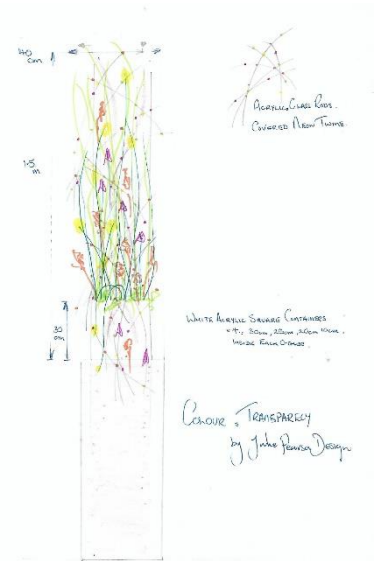


Colour and Transparency

Florist: Julie Pearson Design

Website: www.juliepearsonuk.com

This design incorporates the exciting and invigorating Pantone neon colour trends from 2023 to 2024. To compliment the concept, the fabulous Scottish made Nutscene Neon Twine has been used in the design. Within the neon colour palette, the botanicals of varying hues and tones, could easily become visually heavy or be over stimulating. Using glass test tubes and acrylic rods creates voids of quiet within the chaos, as well as transparency. The mechanics are an integral part of the design concept, and the 1- 1.5 metre design will emerge from four square white acrylic containers, set inside each other. The botanicals will emerge from the water inside the containers. Glass test tubes will also be used to hydrate and support the botanicals.

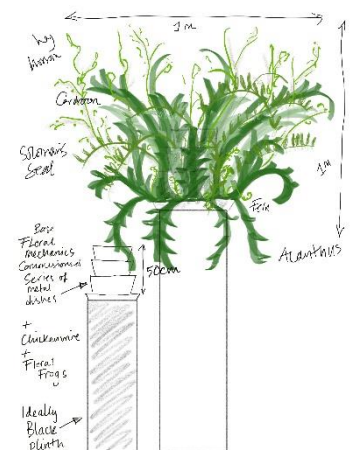


The Capital of May

Florist: Laura Mallows

Website: www.lauraroseflowers.com

This arrangement is inspired by the celebration of May Day in Oxford and is a play on the ancient architectural features of a Corinthian column. Sculptural leaves and branches create a column's "capital" while the focus on green, textural foliage reminds us of the Green Man and new life unfurling. One unusual aspect of this display is the lack of focal flowers and bright colour. The designer wanted to focus on the different shades of green in May as the most versatile colour of the season. Plants have been chosen for their strong shapes, colour and textures to create a sculptural arrangement to be seen from all angles.



Burst

Florist: Laura Pannitt

Website: www.helenjamesflowers.com

This exhibition begins with muted earthy tones, before 'bursting' into a crescendo of colour. Like many aspects of our life and nature, the start of a new cycle or great idea is often muted. Growing and developing over many days, months or years and finally blooming into an innovative, bright, and colourful burst. The floral material will be loosely arranged to mirror nature. Contrasting colours of pink, purples, oranges, and yellows will catch the visitor's eye. The design will have an abundance of interesting floral materials creating an impactful display.



Vertical Veg

Florist: Lucy Vail Floristry
Website: www.cadoqan.co.uk

This exhibition is part of the neighbourhood's 'Chelsea in Bloom' event, whose theme this year is 'Floral Feasts'. It is a modern and unusual take on a still life. Using sustainable mechanics, Vertical Veg is an improbable tower of fruits and vegetables, with all parts formed from flowers and plants - all of which are typically found in the kitchen garden.

CREATIVE SPACES

Seed to Ceiling; 'As above, so below'

Florist: Kitten Grayson
Website: www.kittengrayson.com

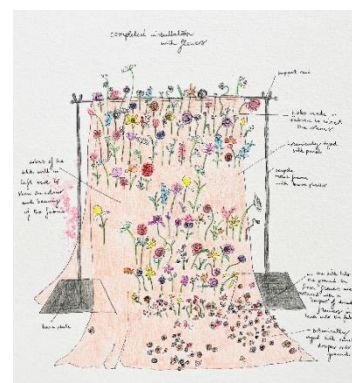
The exhibit is a floral tapestry woven from the landscape, designed to illustrate the journey of a flower from seed to ceiling. Inspired by the ephemeral beauty of natural landscapes, the design features reflective bowls filled with water around which a landscape is created. The bowls are framed by the boughs of wild tree sculptures made from roots and branches, with seasonal planting and moss-covered stones forming an undulating landscape beneath. This thicket of trees is designed to create a portal, while a tangled web of flower garlands rain down from the boughs of the trees reflecting the landscape below. The piece showcases how flowers and plants are transformed by natural drying processes, evolving into new, beautiful forms. The colour scheme features warm tones – a dance of elemental colours led by the seasons. Plant choices are selected in line with astrological practices taking into account the plants ruling planets. For example, poppies are ruled by the moon which in turn greatly affects our emotions and intuition. The rose is ruled by Venus, whilst many herbs are linked to the heart.



The cracks which appear, and the things that grow from them

Florist: Days of Dahlia
Website: www.daysofdahlia.com

This piece is an experiment in subtlety and illusion; what is viewed from the front and back is a gravity defying garden of delights, with flowers growing magically from a drape of exquisite colour which has been dyed with the pigments of the flowers it displays. The sculptural stand is draped with a length of botanically dyed silk, with flowers inserted into the fabric and their stems held in simple glass vials of water, hung with twine from the support rail above. The colour scheme is not planned, as the silk fabric was dyed by making dyes and pigments with flowers, plants and other botanical materials. The colour created is a "live colour" which has been determined by the seasonal alchemy of the botanical materials the designers use.



AWAKENING-DNA: rooted in nature together

Florist: Moreton Morrell College

Website: www.wcg.ac.uk/

This design narrates the passage of the seasons and is inspired by DNA, the one thing which unites all life on Earth, with three towering double helices each with its own botanical identity. Colour is inspired by nature itself starting with lush greens, before building in intensity and bursting up with a riot of flamboyant reds and purples. Then finally transitioning to more muted tones graduating towards the beauty in nature's decay. A key feature of this design is the sustainable woven framework of natural willow which will be crafted to create the three double helix towers onto which a tapestry of planted material is interwoven, inserted, and overlaid. The designers' have used both fresh and dried plant materials for textures that are genuinely reflective of actual nature.

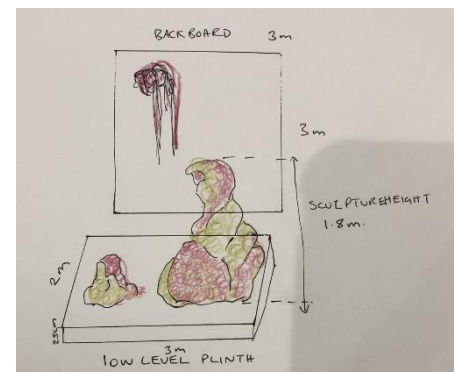


Arrangement

Florist: Carly Rogers

Website: www.carlyrogersflowers.co.uk

This exhibit is a large sculptural interpretation of a 'floral arrangement' scaled up, reimagined and transformed into organic shapes and forms that are reminiscent within nature. This work explores the joy of playing with texture, colour, scale and composition. The exhibit features a white wall backdrop that would have a smaller wall mounted arrangement that is part of and compliments the larger structure. The work is inspired by the designer's 35 years of work as a florist that started in her early teens.



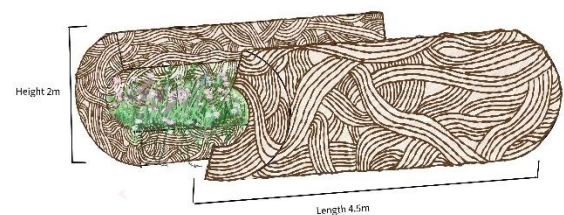
Heartwood

Florist: Acacia Creative Studio

Sponsor: Steel Supplies Limited

Website: www.acaciastudio.co.uk

Heartwood is a sculptural reflection of nature. As a tree ages, new rings of sapwood are grown, protecting the inner heartwood from decay. In return, the redundant inner cells create a strong structural pillar. When a tree falls and splits open, its inner core is revealed: the heartwood. However, even in this fading state, nature finds a purpose. Plants, moss, fungi and living organisms begin to thrive on the heartwood, bringing a new purpose to the meaning of this core. This exhibit brings a message of hope through its natural, hand-crafted, sculptural design. It also focuses on the value of nature and the strength and intelligence of plants.



The floral element of this design, a combination of British grown florals and plants, focuses on a pastel colour palette including British spring florals - *Delphinium*, *Clematis*, *Nigella*, *Iris*, and *Aquilegia*. The simplicity of the tones reflects the beauty and bring a fresh, modern feel. We are passionate about sustainability and using locally grown florals and foliage in many of our designs and finding sustainable materials and methods to use in our creations.