

design

Design update, ideas and sourcebook

UPDATE COMPILED BY ANNIE GATTI



NEW PARK

Green streets

London's West End is to get its first public park in more than a century, thanks to funding by Transport for London. Alfred Place Park, which has been designed by landscape architect Todd Longstaffe-Gowan, will replace the tarmac of a London street with trees, shrubs and other plants set around seating and play

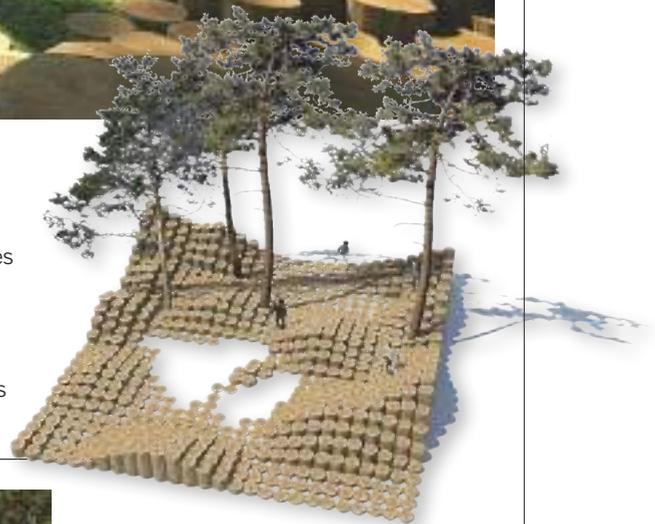
areas. It's part of the £26m West End Project, which is being masterplanned by architects DSDHA, and is transforming the whole of the Tottenham Court Road area with five new public spaces and changes to traffic flow that will create a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists. dsdha.co.uk



FESTIVAL

Playful designs

This month sees the opening of the 18th edition of the International Garden Festival at Jardins de Métis, Quebec, Canada. Six new designs on the theme of Playscapes – spaces that encourage children to play outdoors – were selected from more than 160 entries. Winning designs include The Woodstock (above), a playground made up of giant wooden stepping stones by the French team Atelier Yok-Yok, and La Chrysalide, a chrysalid-shaped shelter with seating on three levels by Canadian landscape architects Gabriel Lacombe and Virginie Roy-Mazoyer. Until 1 October. refordgardens.com



STYLISH LINES

Give your garden some contemporary style with this elegant Caburn bench from husband and wife design team Wales & Wales. Available in American white oak or sapele, it has a curved backrest that rests on rustic-style legs and measures 1.8m long and 70cm high. Prices start at £795 from joinedandjointed.com



Therapeutic Garden

Creating space to heal

Horticultural therapy has been placed at the heart of the new Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital in Johannesburg, thanks to innovative designs from GREENinc Landscape Architecture. The award-winning South African practice has designed five internal courtyard gardens – which ensure patients are exposed to as much greenery and natural light as possible – and five external gardens. The courtyards are divided into active gardens, such as the Day Garden with its interactive toy train sculpture by artist Mary Sibande, which allow play and nature therapy, and passive gardens, including The Healing Garden, where a cluster of leaf-shaped ponds reflect the foliage of surrounding trees, sited near the surgical and intensive-care wards to provide a more tranquil, restorative space. greeninc.co.za

© 2017 JARDINS DE MÉTIS/REFORD GARDENS. BRIAN KERRIN



RENOVATION
Tropical treat

Gardeners at Bodnant Garden, the National Trust Wales site near Conwy, have transformed a Victorian, terracotta-tiled pool into a tropical paradise using an exuberant, exotic planting scheme of lush foliage and colourful flowers. Archive photographs of the pool, known as the Bath, show that exotic plants, such as yucca and cacti, were planted here in the early 1900s but more recently beds were mainly planted up with shrubs. The sheltered microclimate of the site has allowed a return to this exotic scheme. nationaltrust.org.uk/bodnant-garden



AWARD

Modern living

Garden design company Aralia has been named APL Designer of the Year 2017 for a garden around a contemporary house in rural Hertfordshire. Near the house, a sunken terrace, framed by a reflective water feature and tiered borders of mixed grasses and bulbs, provides a seating area, while a second terrace to the side of the house is planted with ferns. There is also an outdoor kitchen and stone fireplace that complements the stone of the house. aralia.org.uk

PAVILION

Meeting of minds

This year's Serpentine Pavilion, in London's Kensington Gardens, was inspired by a large tree that acts as a meeting point in architect Diébédo Francis Kéré's home town of Gando in Burkino Faso. His structure features an over-hanging roof canopy, which is supported by a steel 'trunk' and covered with a transparent skin to allow sunlight to flood the space below. Perforations in the walls, which are made up of triangular wooden blocks, allow light to shine out at night. 23 June – 8 October. serpentinegalleries.org



Notebook

- Now in its 11th year, **Bloom Ireland**, the festival of horticulture, plants and garden design features 22 show gardens, including an innovative design by Liat and Oliver Schurmann of Mount Venus Nursery that celebrates the Irish tidal landscape. 1-5 June, bloominthepark.com
- Don't miss Arne Maynard's talk **Evoking the Spirit of Place in the Gardens of Haddon** in which he explains his design philosophy for the regeneration of the gardens at Haddon Hall in Derbyshire. 8 June, 5.45pm, £45. haddonhall.co.uk
- View sculpture from 88 artists, working in a wide range of styles and materials, exhibiting at **Fresh Air, the 13th Biennial Quenington Sculpture Exhibition** at Quenington Old Rectory, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. 11 June – 7 July, 10am-5pm. freshairsculpture.com
- Joe Swift is giving two talks on **Designing a Chelsea Gold Garden** at Braxted Park in Essex on 12 June, when the gardens open for the NGS to raise funds for Horatio's Garden. Talks at 12pm and 2pm, £10. horatiosgarden.org.uk
- The venue for the third **Gardens in the Wild Festival** is Whitfield Gardens, Herefordshire, where formal borders have recently been re-designed by Arabella Lennox-Boyd. Speakers include Sarah Price, Mary Keen and Jinny Blom. Nearby private gardens, including The Pant, Brockhampton Cottage and Nant y Bedd will open for the Festival. 24-25 June. gardensinthewild.org
- Book now for a **guided tour of two Somerset gardens**, the Oudolf Field at Hauser & Wirth art gallery and Stavordale Priory, on 19 September. £90, including lunch at Hauser & Wirth; gardendaysout.com