



Ascot Racecourse Media Release
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GARDEN DESIGNS UNVEILED AT ASCOT SPRING GARDEN SHOW 2018 LAUNCH EVENT



LONDON, 22ND NOVEMBER – Ascot Racecourse has today unveiled six show garden designs that will be on display at its inaugural Ascot Spring Garden Show, 13th to 15th April 2018.

A high-quality boutique event showcasing Britain’s finest established and emerging horticultural talent, Ascot has created the Ascot Spring Garden Show – the south east of England’s first garden show of this scale in 2018 – with the gardening enthusiast in mind.

The six show gardens have been curated by Andrew Fisher Tomlin, winner of the ‘Best in Show Summer Garden’ at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show 2016, and designed and built by up-and-coming garden designers whose designs are based broadly on a ‘Town and Country’ theme.

The designers showcasing their gardens at the show are Catherine Macdonald, Landform Consultants; Kate Gould, Kate Gould Gardens; Joe Perkins, Longview Design; Pip Probert, Outer Spaces; Richard Holmes and Florian Degroise; and Tom Hill, Tom Hill Garden Design.

The all-new Ascot Spring Garden Show has been planned and designed by Stephen Bennett, former Shows Director at the Royal Horticultural Society where he was responsible for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show and the launch of all other major RHS shows during his tenure.

Award-winning garden designer Kate Gould commented on the event and the show garden she has created saying: "The Ascot Spring Garden Show is a wonderful chance to demonstrate how interesting and appealing gardens can be, even at a quiet time of year. The use of architectural and evergreen planting will be showcased allowing visitors to see how inviting and textural a simple green scheme can be combined with the use of furniture and features."

Forming part of the historic Crown Estate, Ascot is also working closely with The Savill Garden and The Valley Gardens at Windsor Great Park to create horticultural content and gardening advice.

The launch of the show has been welcomed by quality horticultural exhibitors as well as leading manufacturers and suppliers of the best garden equipment, greenhouses, tools and machinery – as well as exhibitors of sculpture and stylish garden ornaments.

Alastair Warwick, Chief Operating Officer at Ascot Racecourse, commented at the launch: "We're known the world over for our horse racing, but we recognise there is space in our annual calendar for non-racing occasions that allow us to fully utilise the iconic venue for other events that fit comfortably with Ascot's brand values. Ascot is a year-round venue with excellent facilities, from award-winning food to its location that is easily accessible by road and rail, so the show will appeal to a wide range of our existing customers and those in the south-east and London area looking to get ahead with their gardening in 2018."

Earlybird tickets are just £16 per person, available until 31st January 2018. For further information and to buy tickets for the Ascot Spring Garden Show please visit www.ascot.co.uk.

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For further information, sponsorship enquiries, interview requests and images please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITOR:

KEY FACTS ABOUT THE ASCOT SPRING GARDEN SHOW

- 13th April – 15th April 2017
- Earlybird tickets available until 31st January 2018 for £16 – www.ascot.co.uk/gardenshow
- The Ascot Spring Garden Show is the first of this scale for the south-east region in 2018
- 6 show gardens from award-winning and up-and-coming designers
- 35 high quality specialist plant nurseries
- 60 garden-related trade stands
- An estimated 6,500 visitors per day for three days
- David Domoney, co-presenter of ITV's 'Love your Garden', is headlining the Talks Theatre alongside a range of expert speakers

- Ascot Racecourse benefits from both indoor and outdoor space and hard-standing pathways for easy navigation around the show
- Free car parking
- Complimentary shop and drop service for the duration of the show

COMMENTS FROM KEY SPOKESPEOPLE

Stephen Bennett, Ascot Spring Garden Show Consultant

“This is a dream come true. Set on the sunny south side of Ascot’s grandstand, the new garden show boasts top quality horticulture with a terrific twist: top-of-the-range facilities for fine dining, entertainment and shopping as well as a local railway station, plenty of car parking and within easy travelling distance of London and the Home Counties. And there will be plants for sale from the specialist exhibitors at a key time of the year for gardening.”

John Anderson, Head Gardener for Windsor Great Parks

“We are delighted to have this opportunity to co-promote the exciting new event with our friends and colleagues at Ascot Racecourse, to provide some of the horticultural content and the gardening advice for show visitors. Of course, we will also encourage new friends to visit us at The Savill Garden and Windsor Great Park – both nearby and at their best in spring.”

COMMENTS FROM THE SHOW GARDEN DESIGNERS

Joe Perkins, [Longview Design](#)

“As one of 6 show gardens, it is a fantastic opportunity to be involved in a new gardening show at a crucial time of year for gardeners. The show gardens will demonstrate the great potential early spring holds and will provide inspiration for the coming year in the garden.”

Pip Probert, [Outer Spaces](#)

"As a designer, I am always looking for ways to show people what the possibilities are with their outdoor spaces. A show allows the public to enter individual garden rooms and be transformed. Seeing a real garden full of possibilities that they can then transfer into their own personal situations. Ascot is a chance to demonstrate something new and bespoke. The wonderful setting will not only excite and inspire people, but also provide an stimulating ambience for all that attend. I am honoured to have been invited and can't wait to begin our very own Ascot experience."

Tom Hill, [Tom Hill Garden Design](#)

"Taking part in my first garden show is without doubt the most challenging and nerve-racking experience of my career but how could I not rise to the challenge. As I see it, I have nothing to lose but hopefully so much to gain. Ascot, like myself, has taken a leap into the unknown but I am certain visitors will not be disappointed with the outcome and the show will be a resounding success"

Kate Gould, [Kate Gould Gardens](#)

“The Ascot Spring Garden Show is a wonderful chance to demonstrate how interesting and appealing gardens can be, even at a quiet time of year. The use of architectural and evergreen planting will be showcased allowing visitors to see how inviting and textural a simple green scheme can be combined with the use of furniture and features. Kate and her team are really looking forward to facing the challenges that building a garden at this time of year brings, especially as it is being showcased on the prestigious grounds of Ascot.”

Richard Holmes and Florian Degroise

“I’m really pleased to be part of the start of something new and exciting in the world of horticulture. It’s great to see such an iconic venue, such as Ascot Racecourse, diversifying into new territory and giving new designers a chance to showcase their talents. Being in such an accessible location, I can see the Ascot Spring Garden Show growing into a very special annual event.”

FULL LIST OF NURSERIES

- Avon Bulbs
- Bean Place
- Cooks Garden Centre
- Derbyshire Bonsai
- Fibrex Nursery
- Freeman Plants
- Hampshire Carnivorous Plants
- Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants
- Hare Spring Cottage Plants
- Harkness Roses
- Hedgehog Plants & Gardens
- High Park Nusery
- Hooks Green Herbs
- Hopleys
- Hoyland
- Jacques Amand Int
- John Cullen Gardens
- John Hall Plants
- Lockyer Fuschias
- Pepperpot Nursery
- Pheasant Acre
- Primrose Bank
- Primrose Hall
- Rotherview Nursery
- Simply Succulents
- Stonecrop Nurseries
- Straight Mile Nursery Gardens
- The Botanic Nursery
- The Plant Specialist
- W.H.Hyde
- WS Lockyer

FULL LIST OF EXHIBITORS (MORE BEING CONFIRMED)

- A Garden for all Seasons
- Barcham Trees
- Benchmark UK
- Breezhouse
- Charles Taylor
- Christin Ranger Jewellery
- FiveTwo
- Foliage by Design
- Gabriel Ash
- Garden House Design
- Guruve
- Hawk Hill Forge

- Join Us Outside
- Kiraku Clothing
- Loknan
- London College of Garden Design
- Malvern Collection
- Meadow in my Garden
- Muntons Traditional Plant Support
- Oxford Planters
- Pepe Garden Furniture
- Spear & Jackson
- Spry Candles
- Stone Wood Service
- Thai Gifts
- TorStone
- True Fair Trading
- Urban Flowers