



South African garden designer, Henk Scholtz, uses his delightfully idiosyncratic garden as his palette and a place where he can 'play'

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This month's must-have garden accessories



"There are always flowers for those who want to see them" Henri Matisse



welcome



THE MOOD AT THE SGD'S SPRING CONFERENCE a few weeks ago was upbeat – and uplifting. For me, the thing that I took away from 'Nurture Not Nature' was how differently ideas can be collated and presented and how many different fields – graphics, landscapes, abstract art – can inform our work. If you couldn't make it, we will be publishing a review of the speakers' presentations in a later issue.

At the start of the year the press launch for the Chelsea Flower Show was giving few clues to what kind of show we could expect considering the economic climate. But, as the months have gone on, everyone in the gardening industry is saying (cautiously), actually, it's not that bad out there. Gardening and garden design seems to be riding the storm. So, although many sponsors and exhibitors were not confirming until late in the day, there's a chance that Chelsea will be 'business as usual'. We've got a preview of the main designs starting on page 23.

For inspiration from further afield, designer Catherine Heatherington visited the home of Henk Scholtz (page 18) and even if blue walls don't do it for you, his own South African garden is full of charm, humour and personality.

Finally, a plea. To make the *Journal* relevant and up to date, we need to know what projects you are involved in. Designers work at many different sites – from small back gardens, to larger public projects – and everyone's way of presenting to clients is different. Please do send me examples (plans and photos digitally) of your latest work. The *Journal* is yours – so use it!
Jackie Bennett, Editor gdj@jppublishing.co.uk

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"Kew Gardens have lost their relationship with the River Thames. The opportunity to reintegrate them with the river is an exciting project for the 21st century"

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