



10 FINEST GARDENERS & LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS

It's all about upgrading your outside space at the moment – and we've got just the experts to take your garden to the next level, says *Sofia Tindall*

◀ MARCUS BARNETT

Marcus Barnett's unexpected entry into the world of garden design followed a seven-year career as an army officer, with three years as a Royal Equerry. He attended the Inchbald School of Garden Design and in 2004 founded his studio, combining a respect for architectural form with a passion for natural planting. Now a 12-strong team of landscape architects and designers, the studio has won three Chelsea Flower Show gold medals. MBS' portfolio consists of private gardens, estates, villas, vineyards and wineries. As a respected lecturer, Marcus continues to talk at colleges and schools as well as publicly, speaking at the V&A and across Europe. marcusbarnett.com



◀◀ MARIAN BOSWALL

A leading landscape architect and horticulturalist, Marian Boswall's design philosophy is underpinned by a keen interest in sustainability, ecology and biodiversity. Highly sought-after for her thoughtful and contextual approach, she has a special talent for working with historic settings that has earned her commissions on large trusts, estates and parkland developments. Wellness is deeply embedded in Marian's ethos, as well as the idea that the land can heal and connect us on all levels. Current projects include helping to create the beautiful Giraffe Hall hotel in Port Lympne Reserve and the restoration of an historic garden at Ampott House hotel. marianboswall.com

PHOTOS: © ALLAN POLLOK-MORRIS

ANDY STURGEON >>

One of the UK's leading garden designers, Andy Sturgeon's modern creations combine traditional materials with a distinctive, contemporary style. With eight gold medals at Chelsea Flower Show and multiple other prestigious awards under his belt, his commissions (which range from roof gardens to public spaces, country estates to international projects) see him consistently placed among the top ten garden designers in the UK. This year will see the release of his fourth book, on working with large landscapes. andysturgeon.com



◀◀ DAN PEARSON

A British landscape designer, horticulturalist, writer and gardener, Dan Pearson boasts an impressively prestigious CV that includes stints at RHS Wisley, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and more. No wonder, then, that his 34-year career is decorated with awards and gold medals, along with appointments to bring his distinctive, painterly style to gardens such as the splendid Torrecchia Vecchia in Italy and Lowther Castle, Cumbria. Since 2014, he has held the esteemed position of Garden Advisor to the National Trust at Sissinghurst Castle. danpearsonstudio.com



ARABELLA LENNOX-BOYD >>

Influenced dually by elaborate Italian design and native British planting, Arabella Lennox-Boyd is the undisputed doyenne of modern British gardening, with a career spanning over 700 gardens. Her captivating verdant home, Gresgarth Hall in Lancashire, is the result of 40 years of work and a leading example of her inimitable style, offsetting lush, wild-growing native greenery with exquisite formal borders and blooming arboretums. Most recently, Lennox-Boyd released a new book, *Gardens in My Life* (Apollo, £40), and next year will continue to travel the globe, discovering new plants and working with extraordinary tropical and European gardens alike. arabellalennoxboyd.com



« **TOM STUART-SMITH**

This year has seen the reveal of RHS Bridgewater, to great fanfare for Tom Stuart-Smith who designed the masterplan. It also marked the publication of *Tom Stuart-Smith: Drawn From the Land* (£50, Thames & Hudson) and saw him continue his legacy at The Hepworth Wakefield and Chatsworth, where he has worked with the garden team since 2016. Stuart-Smith's instantly recognisable penchant for cinematic wildernesses is thanks to a respect for natural biodiversity and emphasis on free-roaming perennials. While English gardens may feel like the heart and soul of each project, over his career he has established a reputation of excellence in Europe and beyond. tomstuartsmith.co.uk

RANDLE SIDDELEY »

Over an award-winning 40-year career Randle Siddeley, the Lord Kenilworth, has worked on classical and contemporary projects with great cultural significance. Sensitive yet striking design is at the heart of Randle's ethos, along with the mission to create a legacy for future generations. Projects range from intimate, secluded private gardens to vast urban spaces, and the studio is constantly exploring new ways to design sustainable spaces that embrace ecological, social and cultural backdrops. Randle's distinctive designs are sought-after globally as well as in London and the Home Counties. randlesiddeley.co.uk



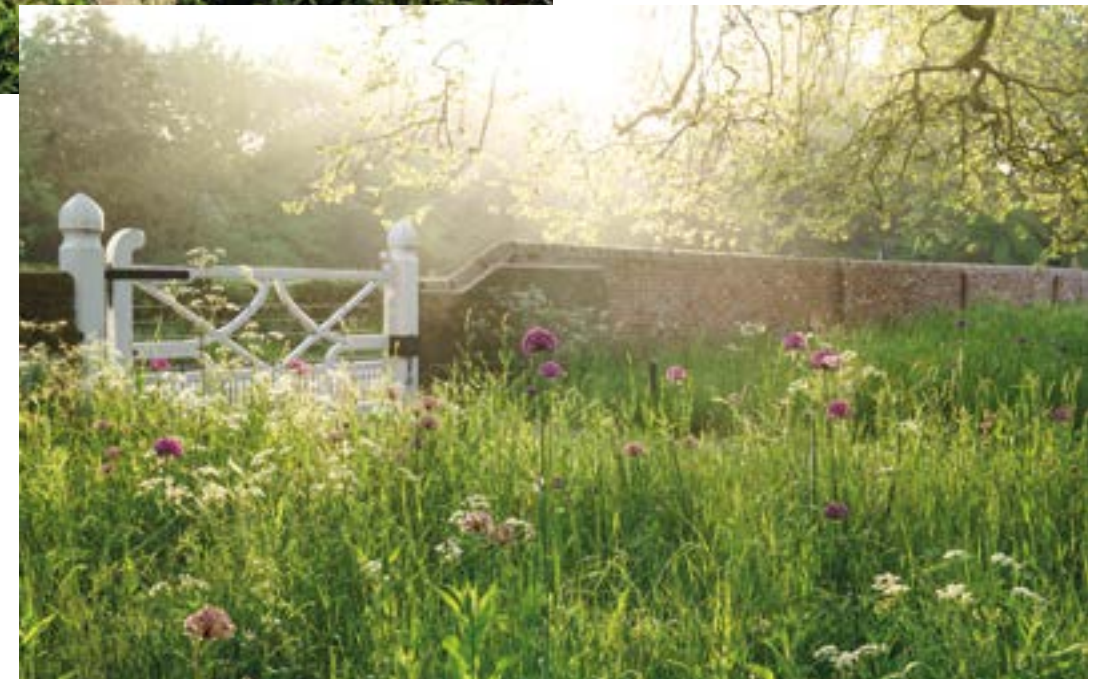
« **JAMES ALEXANDER SINCLAIR**

James Alexander-Sinclair MSGD is much in demand as one of the UK's best-known garden designers, with examples of his exuberant, dramatically-planted private gardens stretching from Cornwall to Moscow. Currently he is working on designs for a garden for the new Priscilla Bacon hospice in Norfolk, and continues to be involved with the garden he created for Horatio's Garden charity in Scotland. He is a popular speaker on the lecture circuit, regularly featuring on BBC gardening shows. Following a recent appointment of Vice President of the RHS Council, he will continue to judge the show gardens at Chelsea Flower Show and other regional shows. jamesalexandersinclair.com



JO THOMPSON »

Sustainability and biodiversity are the beating heart of Jo Thompson's projects. With 25 years' experience under her belt, she boasts a worldwide reputation and four gold Chelsea Flower Show medals to date. Romantic, natural and relaxed style is inherent to Jo's philosophy, and it is this distinctive blend that has drawn royalty and the A-list alike, with commissions for private sculpture gardens, lake islands and coastal gardens. Jo's second book, *The Gardener's Palette*, will be published in June 2022, celebrating her love of colour. jonthompson-garden-design.co.uk ■



JINNY BLOM »

'I don't know what it is that inspires me to do this work, all I know is that I can't not do it,' says Jinny Blom. This philosophy has served the garden designer well over an illustrious 20-year career, with a portfolio brimming with innumerate imaginative projects, all infused with Blom's characteristic flair. Think lakeside contemplation pools in the Highlands, wild cottage 'anti-gardens' and colonnaded courtyards in Kenya. In the coming year, Blom and her 11-strong team will continue to create extraordinary gardens near and far. We can also expect to hear more from her informal virtual salon, Jinny's Tonic. jinnyblom.com

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