

March 2019



The Watchmaker's Garden at BBC Gardeners' World Live

Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter is a bustling, cosmopolitan area, steeped in history. In the Victorian era the area was booming with trade as the jewellery and watchmaking industries expanded, with it being common for craftsmen to set up workshops in their back gardens to meet demand. BBC Gardeners' World Live's headline Watchmaker's Garden, designed by award-winning garden designer Alexandra Froggatt, is inspired by these dedicated 19th century back-garden horologists.

Step onto the garden and you'll step back in time into a watchmaker's garden workshop, where the city's iconic Chamberlain clockface is mid-production, with a workbench surrounded by original tools and artefacts. Outside of the rustic building, the garden is authentic to the era with heirloom and heritage vegetables, salads growing alongside cottage garden plants and self-seeded native flowers. Unkempt grass areas surround the space, with rustic paths and fencing along with nasturtiums and climbing peas scrambling up posts. Trees and shrubs border the garden, giving a mature feel, as well as screening the boundaries.

Alexandra is working with master grower Terry Porter to create an authentic and inspirational veg patch of traditional varieties from Suttons Seeds including a prominent feature of heritage Peas up to six feet high, including old cultivars Champion of England and purple-flowered Blauwschokker Peas. In addition, Jon Wheatley will grow a technicolour display of dahlias for the garden. Known for their growing perfection, Terry and Jon were the duo behind the railway bank allotment and cutting garden in Paul Stone's Platinum Award winning 'Made In Birmingham' Garden, Best In Show at BBC Gardeners' World Live 2018.

Alexandra Froggatt made her debut at BBC Gardeners' World Live in 2016 as designer of the Wyevale Garden Centres 'Capability Brown's Enchanted Tea Party' garden.

You'll find the Watchmaker's Garden along with many more show gardens, plus a show-load of garden inspiration including a vast Floral Marquee and the BBC Two *Gardeners' World* presenters, at BBC Gardeners' World Live from 13 to 16 June at Birmingham's NEC. For tickets and Show information visit www.bbcgardenersworldlive.com

Ends

Notes to the editors:

For more information please contact Sarah Sandys-Renton on 07500 762 168 / ssr@riverstreetevents.co.uk. Alternatively contact Sheeraz Gulsher at Rewired PR on 0121 236 2132 / sheeraz@rewiredpr.com

Details correct at time of print.

With thanks to



Cheshire Demolition and
Excavation Contractors Ltd.



BBC Gardeners' World Live, 13 - 16 June 2019, NEC Birmingham. Tickets from £25. For more information visit bbcgardenersworldlive.com. BBC Gardeners' World Live is organised and presented by River Street Events Ltd. The Gardeners' World logo is a trademark of BBC. © BBC.

About BBC Studios. BBC Studios is the main commercial arm and a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). BBC Studios to support the BBC public service mission and to maximise profits on its behalf. It does this through investing in, commercialising and showcasing content from the BBC brand overseas and champions British creativity.