

L'OCCITANE: A PERFUMER'S GARDEN IN GRASSE

Exhibitor/Sponsor: **L'Occitane UK**

Designer: **James Basson**

Contractor: **Howle Hill Nursery**

The garden is designed to reflect the renaissance that the perfume industry in Grasse is currently experiencing.

James Basson, Scape Design

How did you win the project?

We had to come up with a project that met the sponsors' brief. We were pitching against two other designers.

How did you choose your contractor?

We've worked with Peter Dowle on three other Chelsea gardens and have a great relationship with him and his team.

Which nursery is supplying the plants?

Most are from Kelways, the herbs and aromatics from Jekka's Herb Farm, and others from Gaudissart in France.

What's your favourite time from the day you arrive on site?

When the structure is in and the detailing starts, it stops being a site and transforms into a garden.

What will happen to your garden after the show?

The structures and plants that can be taken down will be reused in a garden in Provence.

Peter Dowle, Howle Hill Nursery

How were you selected to work with the designer?

We first worked together on the Monaco Garden, an epic Gold medal project in 2011.

How many times have you been involved with Chelsea?

I have been delivering large show gardens at Chelsea for 25 years now and have created nine Gold medal winning gardens.

Have you been consulted on the materials and plants used?

We took a filming field trip with James looking at the area, photographing the plants and old buildings to really absorb the atmosphere of the area.

How many people will be on your team during the build?

A team of 16 will have been involved overall.

Hard landscaping suppliers

- Tufa stone: **Tuftalia**
- Wooden base structures: **Riviera Carpenters**

