

EUROPEAN GARDEN AWARD



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2021



THE EUROPEAN GARDEN AWARD

Outstanding developments of heritage gardens, landscapes and contemporary parks are distinguished by the European Garden Award since the award was set up in 2010 by the European Garden Heritage Network and the Schloss Dyck Foundation.

The European Garden Award is thus an important building block in the implementation of the goals of the EGHN, in particular the professional exchange of the approximately 200 parks and gardens from 15 countries that have joined together in this network since 2003.

Since 2010, 93 award winners from 15 countries have received this seal of quality. After last year's absence due to Corona, nine award winners will join this year, for the first time also from Latvia. Some of the nominations and awards are the result of an Open Call that was held for the first time.

Our thanks go to the Nurseries Lorenz von Ehren for the support of the European Garden Award since 2012.

Jury members of the European Garden Award are Kerstin Abicht (Germany), Roswitha Arnold (Germany), Ed Bennis (Great Britain), Gunnar Ericson (Sweden), Jacob Fischer (Denmark), Davorin Gazvoda (Slovenia), Brigitte Mang (Germany), Nuno Oliveira (Portugal), Jens Spanjer (Germany), Lieneke van Campen (Netherlands), Michael Walker (Great Britain) and Udo Woltering (Germany).

Alan Thornley, who was chairman of the EGHN from the beginning and chairman of the jury, died unexpectedly and much too early last October. With him, we have lost a great garden lover and passionate European who was a colleague and good friend to us. We miss him sorely.

Roswitha Arnold
Vice Chairman

IMPRINT

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Cover photo: The Rundāle Palace Ensemble (Photo: Artis Jutus), Photo on the left: Kitchen Garden Schloss Dyck (Photo: Pohl+Grüßen)

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"HOW (GREEN) DO WE WANT TO LIVE TOMORROW?"

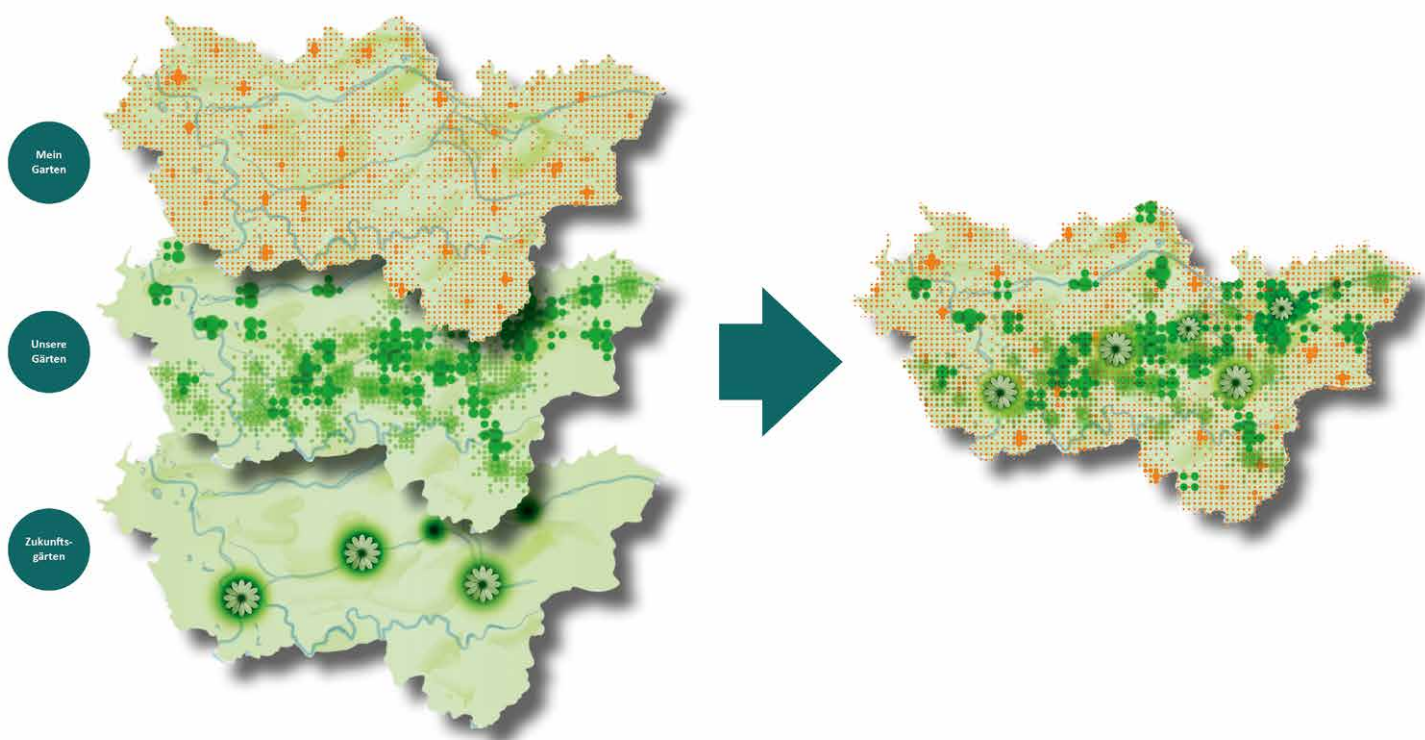
This year, for the eleventh time, the European Garden Award honours outstanding parks, gardens, cultural and urban landscapes as well as measures for their care and valorisation. In their diversity, the 100 or so prize winners show how, under the most diverse conditions, innovative concepts and the highest design quality succeed in revealing the history, values and special features of a space, strengthening existing potentials and thus meeting current requirements and sustainable objectives.

One of the award winners in 2016 was the Emscher Landscape Park, which covers an area of around 450 km². It was awarded as a regional, innovative and dialogue-oriented action for the ecological transformation and enhancement of the quality of life in the Ruhr region. The award was also a tribute to the International Building Exhibition IBA Emscher Park 1989 - 1999, which is considered a powerful start to the modernisation of the old industrial region.

This internationally acclaimed success story is now getting a new boost: In 2027, the International Garden Exhibition IGA Metropole Ruhr 2027 will take place at several locations and with numerous activities and offers across the region.

Under the guiding question "How do we want to live tomorrow?", the IGA Metropole Ruhr 2027 will launch a process for the urban landscape of the future, in which Smart City, Smart Living, new mobility technologies and integration models have become reality and measures for climate adaptation and resilience can be experienced as part of a New Ecology. This visionary exhibition is based on extensive innovation and investment in the field of green and blue infrastructure. It also fosters the use of the region's most striking resources - industrial heritage, gardens and landscapes - for innovative tourism concepts and urban development.

The three levels of the IGA 2027 (IGA Metropole Ruhr 2027 gGmbH)



To meet this complex approach, the IGA Metropole Ruhr 2027 is building on a decentralised exhibition concept with three levels:

Five "**Zukunftsgärten / Gardens of the Future**" as the **first level** will cover most of the thematic spectrum with show gardens, exhibitions and events. They will also be the central places for discourse with international experts on global issues and exemplary solutions. This level includes the "Rheinpark" in Duisburg, the "Zukunftsinsel" in Gelsenkirchen, the "Emscher Nordwärts" project in Dortmund and the Zukunftsgärten in Bergkamen / Lünen and „Emscherland" in the Recklinghausen district.

The **second exhibition level "Unsere Gärten / Our Gardens"** focuses on the diversity of parks and gardens, reflecting the region's economic, social and urban history. Selected sites will be upgraded through investment and linked via themed routes.

On the **third level, "Mein Garten / My Garden"**, associations and private initiatives will present their neighbourhood green ideas and activities. This will not only convey design ideas, but also promote civic engagement and identification with the region.

But already on the way to the presentation year, the region invites dialogue and cooperation. Thus, further innovative ideas are to be generated and findings from the implementation process of the IGA Metropole Ruhr 2027 are taken to the world. The European Garden Heritage Network EGHN and the European Garden Award are ready to support this international focus with the expertise of the award winners and the EGHN partners in 15 countries.

www.iga2027.ruhr



left:
Development plan Zukunfts-
insel East (Copyright: IGA
Metropole Ruhr 2027
gGmbH)

below:
Maximilianpark Hamm: Glass
elephant (Photo: Thorsten
Hübner)



WINNERS: MANAGEMENT OR DEVELOPMENT OF A HISTORIC PARK OR GARDEN

1ST PRIZE: RUNDĀLE PALACE (PILSRUNDĀLE, LATVIA)



The grounds of Rundāle Palace amount to 85 hectares including the French Baroque Garden, which covers 10 hectares. Based on a design by Francesco Rastrelli, the garden was created by Christopher and Michael Weyland between 1736 and 1740. The garden borders a former hunting park to the south and agricultural land to the north.

The renovation was implemented in several stages: trimming of overgrown trees, restoration of paths, replanting of trees and bushes, restoration of bosquets surrounded by hedges, installation of arbour passages or pergolas, reconstruction of ornamental parterres, pools and fountains, restoration of the Gardener's House. Rastrelli's design did not give a specific bosquet filling, but it showed pavilions. Therefore, samples of baroque gardens were considered in the creation of the bosquet fillings, including the creation of a labyrinth and pavilions.



The Rundāle Palace Ensemble in winter. (Photo: Artis Jutus)

In 2004, the Green Theatre was opened. In 2005, the rose garden (1 ha) on both sides of the ornamental parterre was commenced. It contains 2,300 rose varieties, including 600 historical varieties. The restoration of fruit tree orchards commenced in 2018. Lists of plants used in the gardens and thematic exhibitions are shown in the Gardener's House.



left:
Bosquets of the regular park.
(Photo: Artis Jutus)

below:
Rundāle Rose garden (Photo:
Rundāle Palace Museum)



2ND PRIZE: LOWTHER CASTLE & GARDENS (PENRITH, GREAT BRITAIN)



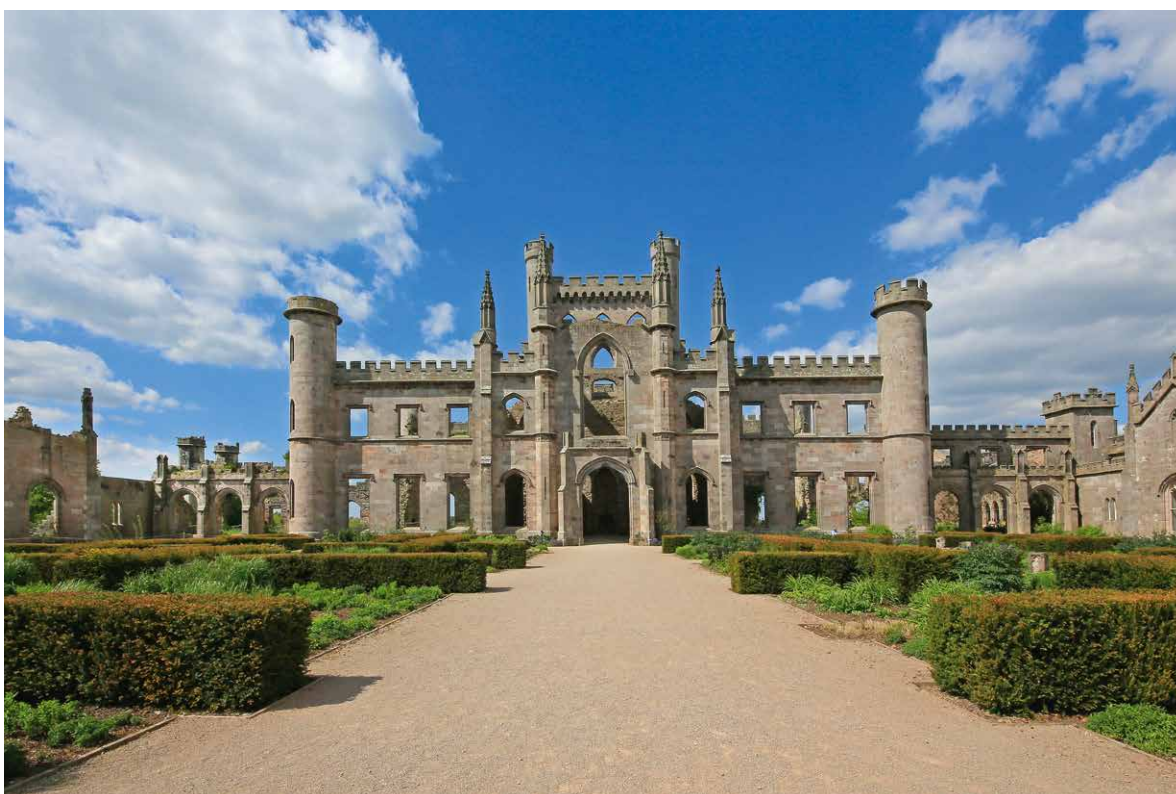
In 1957, James Lowther watched roof and stonework of his family home being removed for sale at auction to cover the taxes. The gardens were turned over to growing timber and to cultivate pigs and chickens.

Restoration was initiated in 1992, when English Heritage placed the site on the Heritage at Risk Register. James Lowther's son Jim then assembled a group of like-minded opinion-formers to restore the gardens.

In 2012, the gardens opened to the public. Since then, Lowther Castle & Gardens has continued to reveal its history to visitors while adding a wealth of new layers. Dominic Cole masterminded the recreation of the South Lawns, echoing but not aping their previous form. Dan Pearson planted the eastern half of the ruin turning it into a living sculpture that will look like its predecessor, Lowther Hall. He also designed the parterre in a planting pattern that has a threadbare tapestry in mind.

The courtyard - an empty space without the horses, carriages and grooms – is planted with 32 pillared hornbeams to echo the castle's turrets and crenelations and to bring in spaces that feel intimate and yet still grand. In 2020, a new Rose Garden was unveiled - formed in the shape of a wild rose.

Lowther Castle Parterre and South Facade (Photo: Lowther Castle Project)



2ND PRIZE: MARQUEYSSAC (VÉSAC, FRANCE)



Château de Marqueyssac was built at the end of the 17th century, on cliffs overlooking the Dordogne Valley. The original garden "à la française" featured terraces, alleys, and a kitchen garden.

In the 1860s, the new owner began to plant thousands of boxwood trees - today there are over 150,000 - and had them carved in fantastic shapes. He added linden trees, cypress trees, stone pine, and introduced the cyclamen. He built rustic structures, redesigned the parterres, and laid out long walks.

In the second half of the 20th century the gardens were not well maintained. Beginning in 1996, the new owner, Kléber Rossillon, restored the gardens to their old character and added new features including an alley of santolina and rosemary and a course of water ending in a cascade. Open to the public since 1997, three circuits lead to the Belvedere, which is a fabulous balcony 192 meters above the river, unveiling exceptional views.

Boxwood still constitutes the gardens' main theme. They show great imagination and movement, at the expense of symmetry and regularity. These rolling characteristics and the sinuous paths give Marqueyssac softness and romanticism and the harmony with the landscape of Dordogne Valley.



left:
Candlelight evening (Les
Jardins de Marqueyssac-
Dordogne©Laugery)



right:
Chaos marq_chaos (Les
Jardins de Marqueyssac-
Dordogne©Laugery)



below:
Aerial (Les Jardins de
Marqueyssac-Dordogne
©Laugery)

WINNERS: DESIGN OR CONCEPT OF A CONTEMPORARY PARK OR GARDEN

1ST PRIZE: THE THIRD TRAIN (COMPIÈGNE, FRANCE; BY GILLES BRUSSET, MARC BLUME, FRANCESCA LIGGIERI)

Heavily impacted by the 20's century wars, the region Hauts-de-France chose to celebrate its heritage and resilience in the "Gardens of Peace". The first of these gardens, "The Third Train", is in the Armistice glade, in the Forest of Compiègne, one of the most significant sites of World War One.



"The Third Train" is an undergrowth garden which embraces the vastness of humus. Inside the undergrowth, a symbolic parallel can be found between the trails of the trenches of the 14/18 war (attack and defend) and the figures drawn by the Mycelium (living and growing). It suggests the idea of an unlimited garden, always expanding as one walks through it.

Following this pattern, the paths of the garden make their way windingly through the foliage, creating rounded and planted areas where different essences of the forest can be seen.

The principal axis is materialised by "The Third Train", a wooden sculpture which is 70 m long. It echoes to the two trains in which the Armistice of the 11th of November 1918 and the one of the 22nd of June 1940 were signed.

Floating above the ground, the sculpture points towards the middle of the glade and crosses horizontally the underwood. It is decorated with mirrors oriented towards the sky making the sculpture shimmer like a precious jewel in the woods.



both photos:
Impressions (Atelier eem;
Paysarchitectures; Photos:
Pierre-Yves Brunaud)



2ND PRIZE: HAUSER & WIRTH (BRUTON, GREAT BRITAIN; BY PIET OUDOLF)



Visitors to the art gallery enter a glazed lobby with a first glimpse of the Oudolf Field: 1½ acres of curving borders with interlocking waves of colour and delicately contrasting textures and winding paths. Some 26,000 plants were planted in the most gruelling conditions. Gardener Mark Dumbleton acts as guardian to Piet Oudolf's meticulously planned vision.

At the core of Oudolf's design is the toughest possible selection criteria for every plant on the list. They are chosen for their form and for growing well, but not dominating, as well as for their longevity. There are 3,000 sqm of flowerbeds in total, nearly two miles of border. Dividing the main swathes of planting are two groups of low-mounding grass ovals, a calming pause in the action.

The outer borders act as a frame and are planted with taller plants. Within this frame are seven borders, which are subtly block planted so that, at times, there seems to be a rhythmical display of velvety russet, for example. At other times, the eye might be drawn cleverly up the garden with a different variety of a plant, such as the butter yellow *Achillea Hella* Glashoff in the lower borders, and the deeper yellow *Achillea Credo* higher up.

Garden by Piet Oudolf
(Copyright: Hauser & Wirth)



2ND PRIZE: PARC DE LA SENNE (BRUSSELS, BELGIUM; BY LA COMPAGNIE DU PAYSAGE)



This linear park, located in the heart of the Masui district, was the only free space to develop a key public space in the area. It reinforces both the district's identity and the region's green network. The park is located over the bed of the covered River Senne.

The new design enables a variety of different atmospheres and represents a perfect response to the concerns of sustainable development. In the end of the implementation process four main sequences will be included:

The 'Natural Senne' is structured around a residential sector and enhances the presence of vegetation with its lush greenery.

In the 'Playful Senne', where most of the building façades are windowless, the walls are used as backdrops for graphic decoration or as climbing walls.

At the 'Senne Garden Square', intersected by infrastructure and public facilities, garden squares serve as transitional spaces and as places for sitting and social contacts.

Community vegetable gardens are laid out in the 'Cultivated Senne'. As terraces they reinforce the connection towards 'Parc du 21 Juliet'. Their exposures make this a high-quality growing environment for low-income households.



left:
Parc de la Senne (Copyright:
La Compagnie du Paysage)

right:
Parc de la Senne (Copyright:
La Compagnie du Paysage)

below:
Parc de la Senne (Copyright:
La Compagnie du Paysage)



WINNERS: PROTECTION OR DEVELOPMENT OF A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

1ST PRIZE: WATERLOOPBOS (MARKNESSE, THE NETHERLANDS)

In 1951, Waterloopbos was created as a new forest in an area with natural water streams. For 40 years, it was the home of the Hydraulic Science Laboratory. In 35 large scale models of estuaries and ports, such as the Delta Works and the port of Rotterdam, tests were carried out to predict the influence of hydraulic works on the water, the landscape and the territory. Digital models made such tests obsolete in the 1990s. Nature took over, and Waterloopbos is national monument managed by Natuurmonumenten now.



RAAAF and Atelier de Lyon have turned the biggest of these constructions, the massive Delta Gully, into the artwork Deltawerk//. The concrete structure, once in a strict line, is now broken. Concrete panels are cut from the sides, rotated and tilted. This offers a magical experience of light and dark, with views on the surrounding nature peeking through.



above:
Waterloopbos, Deltawerk//
(Copyright: Natuurmonu-
menten - Andries Schaaf)

below:
Waterloopbos Model
Maasvlaktecentrale (Copyright:
Natuurmonumenten -
Jeroen Bosch)



Nature now becomes a strategy for dealing with the cultural history of the place. 5,000 sqm of concrete top layer is sandblasted to encourage moss and lichen growth. In the coming decades Deltawerk// will become a green monument where art, nature and engineering come together.

The architectural intervention literally opened the forest for the public. The engineers that used to work in the laboratory are now guiding tours through the forest.



Deltawerk// (RAAAF; Photo: Kyoungtae Kim)

2ND PRIZE: INSEL HOMBROICH (NEUSS, GERMANY)



"Art in parallel to Nature" - the motto of Museum Insel Hombroich captures the spirit of the museum's fostering concept of creating a space as an ideal in both museum and landscape terms. It is a daylight museum with ten walk-in sculptures some of which are used as exhibition buildings. It was conceived by art collector Karl-Heinrich Müller, in conjunction with the artists Gotthard Graubner (installation of the collection), Erwin Heerich (walk-in sculptures) and Bernhard Korte (landscaping).

Opened to the public in 1987, it comprises a 21-hectares, conservation-grade landscape, where the design of a floodplain landscape was carefully enhanced. Bernhard Korte has realised an ideal landscape that does justice to all, the local topography, its history and the vision of art parallel to nature. At the heart is the historical Insel Hombroich, a 19th century park, which had long been abandoned. Adjacent farmland was soon bought in and landscaped into a wetland/meadow feature. The grounds are modelled by existing gradations in the topography and by former meanders of the river.

Today, this real cultural landscape is a museum and a place where artists live and work. It is a domain for architecture, nature, and cultural events.



Impressions (Photos:
Pohl+Grüßen)

2ND PRIZE: SANTAR VILA JARDIM (SANTAR, PORTUGAL)

Santar is a village in the river Dão region. There are remains from the Roman Empire, such as archaeological vestiges, roads and bridges.



A series of manor houses stands with contiguous grounds that once were occupied by orchards and vegetable gardens and vineyards along the edges. Some of these enclosures have evolved into formal boxwood gardens. Since the 1950s extensive plantations of vineyards became dominant in this landscape. A group of owners brought the properties together and started a conceptual process, led by Fernando Caruncho, who understood the *genus loci* and was able to awake the dormant side and beauty of the landscape.

The project uses the values of this cultural landscape to promote the region's social, cultural and sustainable economic development. It is bringing people together, combining efforts and joining neighbour gardens, creating community gardens, opening passages or creating bridges over the walls. Visitors can discover Santar's secrets and charms, gardens and built heritage, remarkable trees, emblematic camellia, boxwood alleys, the granite either in a rustic, noble or religious structure, traditions, vineyards and the wine, and the joy of the authentic country life.



above:
New community gardens
(Photo: Santar Vila Jardim)

below:
Garden of Casa dos Condes
de Santar e Magalhães (Foto:
Santar Vila Jardim)