



THE SUNDAY TIMES

THE SHOW MUST
GROW ON
The winning designs and on-trend
blooms from Chelsea | p46



This year's Chelsea Flower Show designs took us on a journey from the south of France to Japan, via a Derbyshire rock garden. By **Caroline Donald**

Even in the Fresh category, which encourages a more conceptual approach, there was little gimmickry — though what on earth were those huge white metal flowers about in the Harrods Fragrance Garden? There were some innovative materials, such as the curving Jesmonite resin-composite wall, created by 3D printing, in Fernando Gonzalez's Pure Land Foundation garden. Although it was difficult quite to grasp the sense that this was a Chinese landscape, the planting was gorgeous: in golds, apricots and rusts. Here, too, was a drama, with a last-minute dash over to Spain to fetch fresh perennial foxgloves 'Illumination Apricot' as the ones growing here were not in flower. It was worth it, though — the foxgloves were one of the new stars of the show and will undoubtedly be making a return in gardens next year.

