



Artist's impression of the Flemings & Trailfinders Australian Garden to be built at the Chelsea Flower Show in May this year (image generated by SLAM).

Australian Garden goes to Chelsea

LIAV member and board member Mark Browning has designed this year's Australian Garden for the Chelsea Flower Show. This is the fourth time Fleming's Nurseries has exhibited an Australian Garden at the world renowned Chelsea Flower Show. For Fleming's director, Wes Fleming, it's a chance to showcase great Australian talent on the world stage.

"Each garden we've taken to Chelsea has been different. But they've all embodied wonderful qualities of our Australian lifestyle. The gardens are well designed spaces that

you actually want to spend time in. And this year's garden takes that concept even further," he said.

Mark Browning describes the garden as "sophisticated, stylish and contemporary; a place where you can completely lose yourself."

"The garden has many aspects to it. It's dark and moody and yet there are spaces that are tranquil and romantic. There's a good balance between strong architectural features and planting."

The main garden area features a raised platform of bluestone with built in seating and a table, creating an

open secluded space surrounded by water. A large fish tank embedded in a feature wall promotes tranquility and movement. A spectacular steel triangular pergola ties all the elements together, creating curved shadows on the fractured granite pavers.

The garden features close to 40 trees over six metres including a grove of Himalayan White Barked Birches and Purple Beech. Two *Dracaena draco* trees make a bold impression with their spiky texture. Purple, burgundy and silver foliage bring colour and life to the garden, as well as a mixture of textures and

shapes. All the plants have been sourced in Britain, Spain and Italy.

Award winning Kiama Landscapes and Paving, also LIAV members, will construct the garden.

For the last three years Fleming's Nurseries Australian Garden has been among the medal winners at the Chelsea Flower Show. This year the team has its sights on a gold medal and 'Best in Show.'

The Chelsea Flower Show runs from May 22-26. For updates on the team's progress go to: www.flemings.com.au/chelsea2007