



A FOCAL POINT AT CHELSEA

Joanna Bryant and Lyndsey Keeling at One Church Street Gallery in Great Missenden have a passion for contemporary lifestyle, both indoors as well as in outdoor spaces. This summer, the exhibition 'Focal Point', illustrates how sculpture can focus the eye and turn an outside space into a living, breathing work of art. Even the most traditional garden can embrace a modern twist, leading the eye down a path, heighten awareness of the surrounding space, and bring poetry or even a sense of humour to work alongside nature.

The gallery was selected to demonstrate the possibilities of sculpture at both the RHS Chelsea Flower Show and at Hampton Court, winning four gold stars for their 'courtyard-style' garden at Chelsea this year. Garden wall pieces (water-cut from steel and aluminium) sat alongside a bronze owl, a giant stainless steel allium head, metal mesh figures and the female form 'Daphne'. At Hampton Court, a 2.5 metre figure in rusted steel towered over ceramic vessels and poetry inscriptions, whilst garden birds made out of recycled and vintage tins, settled on the beams and wooden uprights.

Working with Sean Walter and his team at The Plant Specialist (a landscaping and design company with a nursery specializing in herbaceous perennials and ornamental grasses, located close to Roald Dahl's Gipsy House in Great Missenden), the dream was finally made real. The nursery is a surprising discovery for anyone seeking tenderly nurtured plants with a difference. The nursery



nestles into a spectacular Chiltern setting, offering glorious views and an inspiring layout to whet the appetite for creative gardeners. The planting included *Pulsatilla vulgaris* AGM, *Armeria maritima* 'Alba' and *Viola hederacea* to complement the sculptures within a courtyard garden, constructed from pine sleepers washed with Lye.

Around 300,000 people visit the two largest RHS flower shows. Sunshine and showers brought light and glistening raindrops, to enhance the beauty of the sculpture, whilst bees, and even the odd dragonfly dropped by, to enjoy the flowers and settle on the warm bronzes in the sun.

Offering an exciting choice of the most intriguing and inspirational contemporary art today, One Church Street Gallery represents a growing number of artists and sculptors, from all over Europe. Showing at art fairs and major events in London, the business also has a gallery in Buckinghamshire. To see why outdoor sculpture deserves to be the focus for our attention this summer, make a visit to Great Missenden and call in at The Plant Specialist en route. Think creatively about your garden. Come, be inspired.

'Focal Point', One Church Street Gallery, 1 Church Street, Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 0AX

18 July - 30 August 2014, open Thurs, Fri, Sat 11am - 4pm

www.onechurchstreet.com

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