

# THE GARDEN EXPERTS

*Gardens have been more important than ever this year, as we have focused on our outside spaces. Selected from a list of highly talented creatives, our Top 50 garden designers include established professionals, promising newcomers and practices both large and small – all producing amazing gardens, from traditional country to contemporary urban*

FROM LEFT Arne Maynard, Christopher Bradley-Hole, Arabella Lennox-Boyd, Tom Stuart-Smith, Jinny Blom and Luciano Giubbilei. All furniture shown is available from Modernity at 14 Cavendish Square ([modernity.se](http://modernity.se))



## ACRES WILD

Debbie Roberts and Ian Smith have run their hugely successful West Sussex garden-design practice for more than 30 years, and are masters of the art of creating generously planted gardens in a tightly structured framework. Three-times winner of the Society of Garden Designers Large Residential Garden Award, they also won the Medium Residential Garden Award in 2020 as well as the coveted People's Choice Award.

**WHAT THEY DO BEST** Large rural gardens that blend traditional with contemporary elements, particularly in the Sussex and Kent area.

**DESIGN ETHOS** 'What we enjoy most are projects in beautiful locations with a strong sense of place and plenty of detail in the design,' says Debbie.

// [acreswild.co.uk](http://acreswild.co.uk)

## ANDY STURGEON

A regular star at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, Andy is a well known designer of innovative, contemporary gardens. Based in Brighton, he has an international profile spanning more than 30 years, designing gardens in such far-flung places as Russia and Rwanda, as well as throughout the UK.

**DESIGN ETHOS** 'Good design is mostly about observation and experiences, so travel has shaped my career hugely. Learning from different plant communities, architectural styles and cultural idiosyncrasies is important.'

**WHAT'S NEW?** Andy is designing a garden for an international flower festival to be held in Guangzhou, China, in November 2021 and is also working on a series of roof gardens at Battersea Power Station. // [andysturgeon.com](http://andysturgeon.com)

**BELOW LEFT**  
A border designed by Angela Collins at Bruern Abbey in Oxfordshire

**BELOW RIGHT**  
Arabella Lennox-Boyd's garden at Gresgarth Hall in Lancashire

## ANN-MARIE POWELL

Having run a thriving practice since 1999, Ann-Marie creates both private and commercial designs ranging from roof terraces to hotel gardens. A judge for the Society of Garden Designers and Landscape Institute Awards, as well as for RHS shows, over the years she has produced several award-winning gardens at RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

**DESIGN ETHOS** 'Our gardens are in the naturalistic style with plantings full of colour and soul. We aim to provide sustainable solutions to encourage wildlife and support the environment wherever possible,' says Ann-Marie.

**WHAT'S NEW?** A spa garden at Soppwell House hotel in St Albans and two new areas at RHS Wisley – a World Food Garden and a Wildlife Garden, due to open next year. // [ann-mariepowell.com](http://ann-mariepowell.com)

## ALASDAIR CAMERON

Based in London and Devon, Alasdair runs a team of highly professional designers who design, build and maintain gardens throughout the UK. His own garden, Silverstone Farm in Devon, was featured in the October 2019 issue of *House & Garden*.

**DESIGN ETHOS** 'Collaboration with the client is key to how we work – it is important to understand what role the garden will play in their lives,' says Alasdair. 'We want to ensure that our designs are not only dynamic and beautiful, but work on a practical level, too. They are to be lived in and enjoyed.'

// [camerongardens.co.uk](http://camerongardens.co.uk)



## ANGELA COLLINS

From her Cotswolds base, Angela has been designing private gardens across the UK for 25 years. She specialises in a country style that combines naturalism with a fresh take on classic design and a focus on inspiration and purpose.

**DESIGN ETHOS** 'I'm passionate about plants and colour,' explains Angela. 'So I am always keeping a look out for those brilliant varieties that I hope will give my gardens that extra edge. My main priority when creating a garden is to marry it harmoniously to the countryside beyond. I tend to favour billowing and romantic borders punctuated by strong architectural planting.'

**WHAT'S NEW?** Angela designed the garden at Bruern Abbey in Oxfordshire, featured in the September 2020 issue of *House & Garden*. // [angelacollins.co.uk](http://angelacollins.co.uk)



## ARABELLA LENNOX-BOYD

A world-renowned horticultural tour de force, Arabella is one of the most accomplished landscape designers of our time. She is based in London and Lancashire, where her own garden at Gresgarth Hall is a wonderful testament to her lifelong work in horticulture and garden design.

**WHAT SHE DOES BEST** Arabella's deep knowledge of shrubs means that she is adept at creating gardens with structural interest, while her herbaceous borders are legendary.

**DESIGN ETHOS** 'I find great fulfilment in the design and organisation of spaces to create unexpected views or surprises, and want a garden to be as natural as possible to respect the landscape that envelops it,' says Arabella. // [arabellalennoxboyd.com](http://arabellalennoxboyd.com)

## ALISTAIR W BALDWIN

Working out of Newby Hall in North Yorkshire, Alistair heads up a team of five, who design both private and public projects. Work is undertaken from the Home Counties to Scotland, although focused on County Durham, North Yorkshire and Northumberland.

**DESIGN ETHOS** 'We hope that our gardens spark joy, while helping to reinterpret the historic relevance of a place through new planting techniques. Subtle qualities of light and colour are important to us, which we use to connect gardens to their wider landscape settings,' says Alistair.

// [alistairwbaldwin.co.uk](http://alistairwbaldwin.co.uk)