



NURTURE

Geranium 'Rozanne'



Helleborus 'Silver Rose'



Sarcococca hookeriana humilis



Heuchera 'Paris'



Polystichum tsussimense



Acer palmatum 'Butterfly'



Hydrangea paniculata 'Phantom'



Polemonium 'Heaven Scent'



Eupatorium purpureum



Acer palmatum 'Sango-kaku'

Designer PLANTS

Catherine Clancy talks through the planting for a new townhouse garden

The brief was to create a garden for a new townhouse, and to accommodate a 2.5m x 5m cedar clad artist studio within the design. The 6m x 10m garden already had a new blue/grey limestone patio outside the house, and a seating area was required outside the studio.

The planting was key to the success of this design. The owners wanted an instant garden which looked great year round, and asked for shades of green, interesting leaf textures and some flower colour. A mix of blue and white was the preferred palette and the garden needed to be easy to maintain.

As with any garden of a new townhouse, the soil in the garden had to be completely refreshed; the existing compacted garden soil contained rubble and build waste. New enriched topsoil was brought in, and all rubble and waste removed.

Painting the bespoke fencing silver/grey made the garden seem brighter and provided a great backdrop to the planting. Stepping stones



through the plants linked the existing blue/grey patio outside the house to the summerhouse and seating area at the back of the garden.

Planting some tall specimen Acer trees created an enclosed 'secret' feel to the garden. Planting in tiers underneath the Acers gave a sense of maturity/permanence and seclusion.

Pittosporum tenuifolium 'Silver Magic', Hydrangea paniculata and Eupatorium purpureum were used at the mid-tier. Sarcococca hookeriana was planted to give winter scent and evergreen ground cover. The rest of the space between the paths, patios and summerhouse was filled with masses of ground cover planting;

evergreen plants such as Polystichum tsussimense, Geranium 'Rozanne' for its long season of blue flowers, Polemonium 'Heaven Scent' for blue spring flowers, Heuchera 'Paris' for its evergreen cover and pretty pink/red flower spikes. Masses of spring flowering bulbs were planted to bridge the gap between late winter and summer. Trachelospermum jasminoides was used to soften the new brick wall and trellis. Most of the plants came from Provender Nurseries.

Plant list

- *Acer palmatum dissectum* 'Seiryu'
- *Acer palmatum* 'Butterfly'
- *Acer palmatum* 'Sango-kaku'
- *Betula utilis* var. *jacquemontii*
- *Eupatorium purpureum*
- *Geranium* 'Rozanne'
- *Helleborus x ballardiae* 'Candy Love'
- *Helleborus x nigercors* 'Emma'
- *Helleborus* 'Pink Beauty'
- *Helleborus* 'Silver Rose'
- *Heuchera* 'Paris'
- *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Phantom'
- *Pittosporum tenuifolium* 'Silver Magic'
- *Polemonium* 'Heaven Scent'
- *Polystichum tsussimense*
- *Sarcococca hookeriana* var. *humilis*
- *Trachelospermum jasminoides*

ABOUT CATHERINE CLANCY

Since 2005, Catherine has created high quality, beautifully planted outdoor spaces for clients. Her practice, Inspired Gardens by Catherine Clancy based in Blackheath, London, focuses on making the most of the space in small London gardens. Catherine is a registered member of the SGD.

www.catherineclancy.com