

Giardina 2016

GREY IS TURNING INTO GREEN – WORK HAS STARTED ON SETTING UP GIARDINA

Today, work is starting on assembling Switzerland's biggest indoor 'live your garden' event. Over the next ten days, impressive garden landscapes of up to 600 m² in size are being created in the halls at Messe Zürich. Giardina is presenting particularly spectacular projects this year, unrivalled anywhere in the world. They can be marvelled at between 16 and 20 March.

Spring is arriving in Oerlikon this week: magnificent show gardens are being set up for Giardina. They display a wide range of interpretations of contemporary garden romanticism – the big trend this season. Setting up the gardens within a period of ten days is a major structural engineering and logistical challenge.

5000 plants on a single wall

One of the many attractions at this year's Giardina is the imposing, imaginative natural backdrop of the "Nauterra" show garden. This installation unites water, soil, technology and innovation to form a unique garden world. At 600 square metres, it is the biggest presentation at the exhibition. Fifty lorry-loads of deliveries, countless cubic metres of soil, thousands of plants and 30 tons of steel are being conveyed into the exhibition halls by a bulldozer and a crane. The steel is being used to construct a unique ship's deck, 25 metres in length. To symbolise the Nautilus snail, which expresses the romantic longing for eternity, a 3-metre high, spiral-shaped pavilion rises out of the sea landscape. And what is probably Europe's biggest temporary indoor plant wall stands 6 metres tall alongside it. This is made up of 5000 indigenous plants. These are watered with a new, fully-automatic system in such a way that they will be flowering in their full splendour at precisely the

time the fair commences. Work on "Nauterra" started many months ago: the sample garden is made up entirely of products from the innovative Gomes Design & Technic company.

A mountain landscape of 130 tons of rocks.

The colossal "Rock Garden" will transport visitors into a natural landscape of Alpine foothills, with no expense having been spared to create it. Implementing the backdrop of foothills constitutes both a logistical and a structural challenge. 130 tons of erratic boulders are being brought from Kandersteg in seven articulated lorries. Using a crane, Bernese garden designer Ben Uhlmann and his team have to position these rocks, which are up to 3 metres high and weigh more than 15 tons, to the nearest centimetre to ensure that the installation can make its full impact. This garden creation is characterised by round shapes, generating a harmonious, natural atmosphere. The mystic landscape is livened up by six-metre high maples and tall, inclined pines from Japan. Kitchen manufacturer Zbären constructs bespoke high-end kitchens all over the globe. The family company has designed a luxurious outdoor kitchen for the "Rock Garden", which is built directly into the slope with its crescent shape, and also secures the slope in this way. The cover alone, in 10cm thick natural stone, weighs 1500 kg. This outdoor kitchen of superlatives is a unique specimen and offers the full range of facilities from a refrigerator to a crockery cupboard. The perfect finishing touch is then a futuristic chalet, made of wood that is over 300 years old, sporting a concave sail roof. With this structure, the Blatti brothers impressively combine the traditional form of construction with innovative, previously unseen building styles in chalet construction.

Zurich garden apprentices create an artistic garden

JardinSuisse, the association of Swiss garden companies, always comes up with a highlight for Giardina. This year, the association is presenting itself from a surprising angle: with the "five elements" artistic garden vision by Zurich master gardener Martin Luginbühl and exhibition stand builder Christian Eggenberger. The installation displays earth, fire, water, air and, as the fifth element, the green industry in the form of light sculptures. The presentation is a delightful

spectacle for all the senses – interactive illumination pillars in fabric reach high up into the halls, while musical showers ensure that special sound experience. Alongside all the technical refinements, it is nonetheless the plants that constitute the focal point and give the garden its special flair. Grasses and flowering plants shine in the colours of the five elements. This contemporary garden presentation is being created by 100 apprentices from Zurich under the auspices of the two designers.

Further information and pictures: www.giardina.ch/highlights2016

Giardina – Europe's highest-quality indoor 'live your garden' event.

This unique exhibition heralds in the season in a dazzling fashion at the start of spring each year. The most important suppliers from the sector present new products, creative solutions and upcoming trends in garden design on an area of some 30,000 m². Amidst spectacular sample gardens and artistic installations, visitors will find a wealth of inspiration and ideas for their personal world of flowers and plants in the garden, or on their terrace or balcony.

16 to 20 March 2016 / Messe Zürich

www.giardina.ch

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