



March 2007

# Next Stop Chelsea

Everything needed to construct the Flemings & Trailfinders Australian Garden at the Chelsea Flower Show is now on its way to the UK.

3 shipping containers filled with 54 tonnes of material are being shipped across the world. The containers, loaded with timber bollards, a huge fish tank, massive steel pergola, power generator, sculptures, lights, cement, paint, tools wheelbarrows, ladders, rubber gloves, ear muffs and even pencils, will arrive in London at the end of April.

This is the 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Melbourne landscape designer Mark Browning** has designed this year's Australian Garden. He describes it "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 great balance between strong architectural features and planting."

The main garden area will feature a raised platform of bluestone with built in seating and a table, creating an open secluded space, which will be surrounded by water. A large fish tank embedded in a feature wall will promote tranquility and movement. A spectacular steel triangular pergola ties all the elements together, and will create curved shadows on the fractured granite pavers.

Trees are definitely a highlight. The garden will feature close to 40 trees over six metres including a grove of Himalayan White Barked Birches and a grove of Purple Beech. Two *Dracaena draco* trees will make a bold impression with their spiky

texture. Purple, burgundy and silver foliage will 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.

The garden will be constructed by award winning **Kiama Landscapes and Paving**, also based in Melbourne.

For the last 3 years *Fleming's Nurseries Australian Garden* has been amongst the medal winners at the Chelsea Flower Show. This year the team has its sights on a gold medal and '*Best In Show.*'

A team of 20 will work on the Australian Garden at Chelsea. The team leaves Melbourne in early May and will start work on site on 7<sup>th</sup> May.

The Chelsea Flower Show runs between 22 - 26 May 2007, in the grounds of the Royal Hospital in Chelsea.

[www.flemings.com.au/chelsea2007](http://www.flemings.com.au/chelsea2007)



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

Sponsors of the Fleming's and Trailfinders *Australian Garden* include Gardens At Night, BAM Stone, Van Schaik's Bio Gro, Urban Stone, Lump Sculpture Studio and KHD StonemERCHANTS.

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