

Media Note

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Win for accessibility at Chelsea Flower Show 2023; spinal injury charity Horatio's Garden awarded Best in Show



L-R: Designers Charlotte Harris and Hugo Bugg, Harris Bugg Studio presented with Best in Show by Director General of the RHS Clare Mattherson

Horatio's Garden Chelsea, designed by Charlotte Harris and Hugo Bugg, has been awarded the coveted Best in Show title.

Designed for Horatio's Garden, the UK-based charity that nurtures wellbeing after spinal injury in vibrant sanctuaries in NHS spinal centres, Horatio's Garden Chelsea is an adaptive garden that puts the priorities of all those with different mobility needs at its heart.

The first garden on Chelsea's famous main avenue that has mobility needs at its heart will be relocated to the Princess Royal Spinal Cord Injuries Centre in Sheffield in 2024. It will be eight times the size of the Chelsea show garden and become the eighth and latest of the charity's gardens at NHS spinal centres.

Dr Olivia Chapple, Founder and Chair of Trustees, Horatio's Garden said :*“To be presented with the Best in Show award feels incredible. We are so grateful to Project Giving Back for this wonderful opportunity and Harris Bugg Studio for pushing the boundaries and creating such a thoughtful, pioneering and exquisite garden. This will have such an important legacy in improving the lives of thousands of people in Sheffield and every donation helps us reach our target to make this garden a reality.”*

Earlier in the day the garden was presented with a Gold Medal. Speaking about the awards, Charlotte Harris and Hugo Bugg from Harris Bugg Studio, said: “We are so delighted to win both a gold medal and Best in Show for this garden. From the very start, the charity’s mission really spoke to us. Connecting people with nature is at the heart of everything we do at Harris Bugg Studio and this garden reflects all the stories and needs of the people we spent months listening to before even picking up a pencil to design. This garden is a story of people coming together to make something very special. From the inspiring individuals that make up the transformative community that is Horatio’s Garden to all the dedicated and talented people that worked with us to create the garden - from the contractors to the skilled British craftspeople to the horticulturalists and planting team - the spirit of all of those people made this gold medal a reality.”

Beginning its life at Chelsea Flower Show, before being relocated to its legacy home at the Northern General Hospital in Sheffield, the garden is the antithesis of a busy, clinical hospital setting with every element being informed by the experiences of patients with spinal injuries.

Planting is layered to accommodate different ways of seeing, a garden room provides welcome relief from the busy ward. Smooth, cement-free terrazzo paths are patient-friendly, environmentally-friendly and aesthetically beautiful, with a 77 percent reduced carbon footprint compared to regular cement.

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Press kit and images are available [here](#).

Photo: © Oliver Dixon Photography

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Notes to Editors

About Horatio’s Garden

Horatio’s Garden nurtures the wellbeing of people after spinal injury in beautiful, vibrant sanctuaries within the heart of NHS spinal injury centres.

Leading designers create the accessible, gardens where the charity’s team, alongside volunteers and creatives, care for people and plants alike. The gardens are vital places for reflection and adjustment for people facing life-changing

injuries and long stays in hospital. Impact studies demonstrate that everyone benefits – patients, their loved ones and the hospital staff too.

The charity's vision is to sustainably grow thriving communities and biodiverse gardens in all 11 NHS spinal injury centres in the UK.

www.horatiosgarden.org.uk

About Horatio's Garden Sheffield & East

After Chelsea, this garden will form the heart of Horatio's Garden Sheffield & East as its permanent legacy. Also designed by Harris Bugg Studio, it will be a beautiful and accessible sanctuary in the second largest spinal centre in the UK. The Princess Royal Spinal Injuries Centre at the Northern General Hospital in Sheffield serves a considerable geographical area from the West Midlands to East Anglia and South Yorkshire to Lincolnshire. The garden will support the wellbeing every year of thousands of patients, their families and friends as well as NHS staff looking after them. As an independent charity, we are reliant on public support to raise the remaining £930,000 to bring Horatio's Garden Sheffield & East to life in 2024.

About Harris Bugg Studio

Formed in 2017, when Charlotte Harris and Hugo Bugg merged their separate practices, Harris Bugg Studio is a values-driven, award-winning landscape design practice creating outstanding, inclusive and immersive gardens located in the UK - from Skye, to Cornwall, to London and across Europe. In a short space of time, the studio has grown to twelve people, delivering at the highest level.

Their gardens include high-end residential, public, botanic, commercial, historic, and conservation landscapes. Recent commercial and public projects include the redesign of the historic walled kitchen garden at RHS Bridgewater, the design for the glasshouse complex at Gothenburg Botanic Gardens; the plant driven design of a film studio campus in Berlin working with MVRDV; the gardens for Hope Street, a pioneering residential network and first trauma-informed centre for justice involved women and their children; the design of a forest on a rooftop in London for Roots in the Sky. The many private gardens and country estates they design are located in Dorset, Exmoor, the Highlands, London, Cornwall, Kent and Oxfordshire.

The studio has won five RHS Gold medals, including most recently at RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2021 for its pocket park garden for show sponsor M&G. The Studio is consistently listed as one of Country Life Magazine's "Best Garden and Landscape Design Practices in Britain" and one of House & Garden Magazine's Top 50 Designers. Co-founders Charlotte Harris and Hugo Bugg have been called 'pioneering design talents of their generation' by the Royal Horticultural Society.

www.harrisbugg.com