

PROJECT
DETAILS

Project value

£45K

Build time

Two months

Size of project

7m x 7m

Awards

Shortlisted for the
Pro Landscaper
Podium Awards


VERDANT HIDEAWAY

— HOLLAND GREEN PLACE —

STEFANO MARINAZ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Situated between Kensington High Street and Holland Park in West London, Holland Green Place is a bold apartment block. It forms part of the development of the new Design Museum, which was relocated from Shad Thames in late 2016 to a larger building, and has since won the European Museum of the Year Award.

Stefano Marinaz Landscape Architecture was given the opportunity to design one of the apartment's terraces. It needed to be an entertainment space for family and friends, with comfortable seating. The client also wanted

year-round colour through the planting and for the spectacular views of the inner city to be unobstructed.

Where the building is contemporary and somewhat harsh, the client wanted the new landscape to soften the architecture but also to be a continuation of the modern and minimalistic apartment. For this, project collaborators Marcia Tucker Interiors chose elegant but comfortable furniture in neutral colours designed and made by Summit.

Sleek Sandy White porcelain paving supplied by London Stone was selected to sit on Bauder

adjustable pedestals, and the planters from Capital Garden Products followed the same greyscale scheme.

To create colour through each of the seasons, Stefano Marinaz used a plethora of perennials in long, narrow planters. *Gaura lindheimeri*, *Centranthus ruber*, *Echinacea purpurea* 'Magnus' were planted alongside *Agapanthus* 'Peter Pan', *Verbena bonariensis* 'Lollipop', *Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna', and *Hakonechloa macra*.

Evergreen shrubs were mixed in with these, such as *Pittosporum tobira*, *Convolvulus* ▶

cneorum, *Lavandula angustifolia*, and *Callicarpa bodinieri*. Each plant was carefully chosen to be suitable for full sunlight on the terrace and multi-stem *Amelanchier lamarckii* were placed in the corners to frame the cityscape views. Lighting was incorporated into the scheme through one uplight being installed under each of these trees.

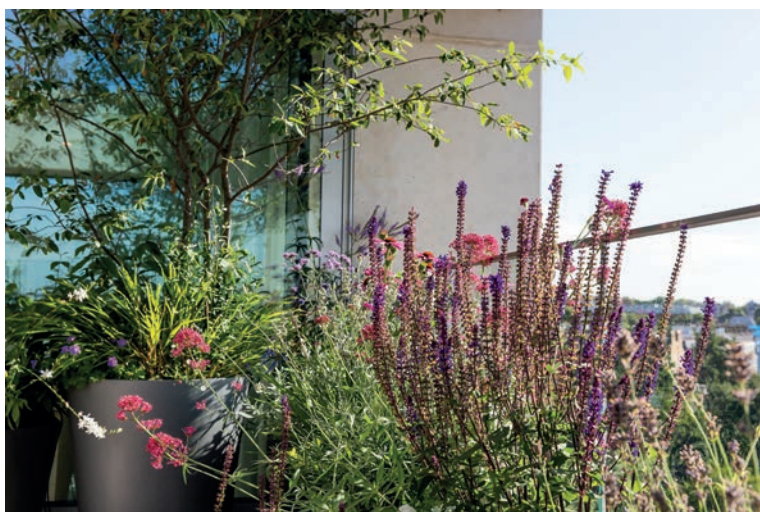
Compost and topsoil were mixed together in a 1:1 ratio to provide structure for the roots, as well as nutrients to give the plants a strong start. A layer of expanded clay was used at the bottom of the planters to allow drainage and was separated from the soil by a permeable membrane.

Before any of the planting could begin, Stefano Marinaz had to work with a structural engineer to ensure the loading proposed for the pots was in line with the allowance of the building. The scheme also had to be approved by the freeholder ahead of the client.

As the terrace is located on the eighth floor, a crane had to be used to lift the furniture. Other elements of the garden – such as the plants, planters and the soil – were carried up using the building's internal lift.

Now installed and thriving, the terrace is maintained by Stefano Marinaz's in-house team every two weeks from March to November and once a month from December to February.





ABOUT STEFANO MARINAZ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

London-based Stefano Marinaz Landscape Architecture works alongside international architects and designers on projects ranging from small private gardens to larger landscapes and historical restorations to garden festival installations. The studio's mission is to create naturalistic gardens which enhance the spirit of place, taking inspiration from both the past and from their context and the ecology of the site. An expert plantsman, Stefano draws on a rich palette for his planting plans, personally supervising soil preparation and planting, and offering an ongoing maintenance service. Stefano Marinaz is a Kew Patron, actively supporting the work of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. www.stefanomarinaz.com

REFERENCES

Furniture
Summit
www.summitfurniture.com

Lighting
Hunza
www.hunzalighting.com

Paving
London Stone
www.londonstone.co.uk

Pedestals
Bauder
www.bauder.co.uk

Plants
Hortus Loci
www.hortusloci.co.uk

Planters
Capital Garden Products
www.capital-garden.com