

PRESS RELEASE – 1 October 2015

THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD'S PLANS FOR A NEW 6,000SQ METRE PUBLIC GARDEN
BY WORLD'S LEADING INTERNATIONAL GARDEN DESIGNERS ARE NOW ON DISPLAY
AS PART OF THE GALLERY'S 5TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



THE HEPWORTH RIVERSIDE GARDEN

The Hepworth Wakefield in West Yorkshire has revealed major plans for a new public garden measuring approximately 6,000 square metres, as part of the gallery's 5th anniversary celebrations.

Four designs by some of the world's leading international garden designers and visionary landscape architects are vying for the chance to create The Hepworth Riverside Garden at the award-winning gallery.

A judging panel of ten comprising David Liddiment (Chair); Simon Wallis, THW Director; Jane Marriott, THW Deputy Director; Chris Blundell, RHS; Edwina Sassoon, Royal Academy of Arts; Anna Pavord, author and writer; Christopher Woodward, Director, The Garden Museum; Cllr Peter Box, Leader of Wakefield Council; Dr Evelyn Stern, David Chipperfield Architects; and Michael Ziff, The Hepworth Wakefield Trustee, has shortlisted four designs for public consultation.

The shortlisted designs are presented by multi award-winning designers Christopher Bradley Hole (and Brita von Schoenaich (joint submission), Tom Stuart-Smith, Cleve West, and Peter Wirtz, who between them have won an impressive 16 gold medals and 6 coveted 'best in show' awards at RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

These shortlisted designs will be displayed on garden sheds outside in the existing gallery garden at The Hepworth Wakefield, for four weeks until 31 October. Local residents, visitors and supporters of the gallery are invited to come and see the displayed designs in-situ and give their feedback by completing a questionnaire in the gallery. Full design proposals will also be available to view on request. Public recommendations from the survey will be considered by the judging panel before the final decision is made on a winning design. The winner will be announced early 2016 to coincide with Visit England's Year of the English Garden, when a fundraising campaign for the garden will be launched.

Jane Marriott, Deputy Director at The Hepworth Wakefield and member of the garden judging panel said:

"It's wonderful to be able to share our vision for the Wakefield Waterfront area with the development of The Hepworth Riverside Garden as we approach our 5th anniversary. We have huge ambitions for our milestone year and our hope to create a new visitor attraction and public space for Wakefield is part of this. We really want people to see the plans in-situ with a display of

the designs in the current garden. If you would like to see our aspirations and share your thoughts on them, then please come down to see us before the end of October.”

David Liddiment, Chair of The Hepworth Wakefield Trust and Chair of the garden judging panel, added:

“A passion for garden is evident throughout Yorkshire, where I grew up, and we hope people will be as excited about the notion of a public garden as part of the riverside site as we are. We felt it was important to work closely with a leading garden designer, whose ambitions matched that of architect David Chipperfield, to create a cohesive and inspiring landscape that will provide a new visitor attraction for Wakefield.”

Anna Pavord, best-selling author, Vice President of the Wakefield and the North of England Tulip Society and member of the garden judging panel said:

“It has been a great pleasure to be involved in choosing a design for the new landscape to be installed around The Hepworth Wakefield. It is a thrilling site, with the river charging over the weir and the wonderful old mill buildings sheltering it to the south. I have been coming to Wakefield for many years to marvel at the gorgeous English Florists’ tulips grown by members of the Wakefield and North of England Tulip Society. Now I shall look forward to an extra delight: the Hepworth Wakefield blooming with trees and flowers where before there were none.”

Simon Wallis OBE, Director of The Hepworth Wakefield:

“Garden and the Yorkshire landscape were a hugely important part of Barbara Hepworth’s creative life and they influenced her sculpture and its settings. It’s fitting, therefore, that we create a natural environment that would have inspired her, and that will have a rewarding all year round dialogue with our superb building and art collection.”

ENDS

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For further details, interview requests with members of the judging panel and shortlisted garden designers, please contact:

Naomi Roberts, PR and Media Manager
T: +44 (0)1924 247392
M: +44(0)7717 807512
E: naomiroberts@hepworthwakefield.org

EDITOR’S NOTES:

SHORTLISTED GARDEN DESIGNS:

CHRISTOPHER BRADLEY HOLE + BRITA VON SCHOENAICH

Christopher Bradley Hole + Brita von Schoenaich want to create a space that can be enjoyed alone, a place of sanctuary where the visitor feels comfortable. They feel an affinity with Barbara Hepworth’s physical experience of the land and this inspired them to create a garden that is enigmatic and invites people in, a garden that changes with the seasons with plants that move and rustle in the wind. Their designs suggest a ‘hortus conclusus’, the Latin term for an enclosed garden that is often depicted in Medieval and Renaissance art. They see an analogy between the historic enclosed garden (hortus conclusus) that were made to provide shelter and security for people and plants and The Hepworth Riverside Garden, that creates a sanctuary and threshold between Wakefield and the nearby busy road and entering the gallery.

The dimensions of their focal point directly correspond to the 5:1 ratio seen at the side of Wakefield Cathedral, offering an interesting link to the city centre. Extending the geometric lines drawn from the gallery, they have mapped out a series of planting beds which can be navigated via walkways. They have chosen to screen the busy main road by a stand of trees at the edge of their hortus conclusus. They have suggested using naturalistic and mounded planting that offers the visitor the opportunity to feel as if they have arrived somewhere mysterious and where something wonderful might happen, using the hedges to offer a sense of comfort and enclosure. The planting with grasses offers seasonality and softness and is also designed so that the visitor encounters pathways that remain hidden until up close. A semi-circular bench at the road end will be a place to contemplate what will feel almost like a private garden.

ABOUT CHRISTOPHER BRADLEY HOLE

Christopher's work focuses on the relationship of buildings to their surroundings, and the wider setting. The underlying philosophy of pure spaces and mathematically harmonious proportions permeates his work. He places particular emphasis on design and construction details and design solutions, which reflect the geometry and philosophy of associated architecture. His most recent garden include Highbury Stadium, Arsenal redevelopment (residential scheme) and The Daily Telegraph Garden (Chelsea 2013)

ABOUT BRITA VON SCHOENAICH

Listed in House and Garden amongst the 40 leading garden designers, Schoenaich Landscape Architects' international team includes landscape architects, an artist and an engineer with a passion for plants. Their design concepts are influenced by various cultural experiences and the practice has a multi-disciplinary approach. Current projects include residential developments for English Partnerships and private developers, designs for the garden at Tate Britain and the British Embassy in Warsaw, planting for the roof terrace of Hamburg's international conference centre, an airport in the desert and the Sainsbury Laboratory, Cambridge Botanic Garden.

TOM STUART-SMITH

Tom Stuart-Smith's proposed garden is a modern, romantic response to the gallery's varied post-industrial location with its riverside setting, robust industrial buildings and the angular sculptural form of The Hepworth Wakefield, instilling this with a naturalism which reflects Barbara Hepworth's deeply felt connection with landscape.

A wall will separate the garden from the main road, with the open spaces composed of paving and lawn, reflecting the ways in which people use space and move through it with variety of places for people to sit. The variety of open spaces also gives flexibility to the garden so it can be used for medium sized events, concentrated in the area around the gatehouse building on the lawn. It is proposed that the access road is raised to the height of the garden so there is good disabled access and a sense that the garden is not overly contained in a central box.

The proposed tree planting comprises some large Beech and Pin oak trees, at either end of the site to create bookends to the garden and smaller trees scattered throughout the garden to create height and enclosure. This would include a number of smaller flowering trees and those with autumn colour. The main area of the garden has extensive meadow planting with a high proportion of the locally native Purple Moor Grass. It would have a principal season of interest from May to December. The grasses would be left standing through the winter. From March through to the end of May, bulbs would be used extensively, adding bursts of colour. The shady areas would have more early spring interest and less summer flower.

The beech hedges create a level of order in the garden and would be especially prominent in winter when they retain their rust brown leaves. The simple folded forms of corten steel shelters would be uplit to provide beautiful warm colouring at night. In winter they combine with the

browns and rusts of the grasses to create an extraordinary sculptural landscape of green, grey and brown.

ABOUT TOM STUART-SMITH

Tom Stuart-Smith Ltd is a landscape design practice with an international reputation for making garden that combine naturalism and modernity. Tom's designs seek to create landscapes that offer a rich and multi-layered experience. His recent garden have included RA (Keepers House), RHS Wisley, Trentham Garden and Queen's Jubilee Garden at Windsor Castle.

CLEVE WEST

Cleve West's designs explore the notion of the landscape inspiring Hepworth's work and in turn has used the artist's forms to inspire this garden. Seeing paths, lawns and beds from above, he has leaned toward the softer, rounded forms that sit well within a landscape setting, while offering an interesting contrast with the angular nature of the gallery building. The proposed plan expresses the textile thread made in the adjacent mills and the thread and forms used in Hepworth's work. The retaining walls are shaped as a gentle nod to the moorland of Yorkshire that Hepworth knew as a child and the Cornwall landscape of her adult life as well as elevating the planting and providing shelter from the road.

The nearby River Calder is suggested by the river of planting which courses its way through the garden, dividing the lawn to create a number of more intimate spaces in which to enjoy the surroundings. Trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials provide seasonal interest and a diverse range of plants has been chosen to benefit local wildlife. A mixed style of planting is proposed where herbaceous plants will be chosen for what they can bring to the garden in terms of texture, form, structure and colour as well as historical context of the site, for example plants used for fabric (e.g. linen - *Linum usitatissimum*) and dyes (e.g. woad - *Isatis tinctoria*) may be included together with the Spindle Tree (*Euonymus europaeus*). Swathes of lower growing plants such as *Sesleria autumnalis*, *Stachys byzantina* and *Geranium macrorrhizum* will be arranged to emphasise the undercurrent weaving it's way through the space and linking views dissected by paths. Fountains of *Stipa calamagrostis*, froth of *Sporobolus heterolepis* and cascades of *Solidago Fireworks* could bolster the watery metaphor.

ABOUT CLEVE WEST

Cleve runs an award-winning studio in London and has been designing garden since 1990. His garden range from contemporary urban spaces to large country estates mostly in the UK, occasionally abroad. He has won RHS Gold medals five times at Chelsea Flower Show and Best in Show two years in succession. He won the Judges' Choice Award, the People's Choice Award and the Public or Commercial Outdoor Space Award at the recent Society of Garden Designer Awards for Horatio's Garden at the Spinal Treatment Centre, Salisbury Hospital.

PETER WIRTZ

Peter Wirtz aims to offer the visitor a new perspective of The Hepworth Wakefield, framing it as if was a pavilion in a garden, an unexpected gem in the park. His designs accent the uniqueness of the architecture with planting and landscaping. The static nature of the architecture with the dynamism of the planned composition of the garden will strengthen both. Wirtz wants the garden to become a place where the visitor will choose linger, describing it as a meditative space and a "lung of quietness".

A deep colour palette and strong leaf textures have been used in the planting to create interest throughout the seasons, making it rich in contrast particularly with the gallery. The busy main road is veiled by crab apple trees and mounds of rosemary willow while the green lawns are enriched with beige fountain grass and beech mounds that will transform in the winter to reds and browns. The combination of dune shaped gentle grading and the mound texture have been chosen to

strengthen the contrast with the geometric architecture of the gallery.

ABOUT PETER WIRTZ

Peter makes designs of the highest class – from the original concept and schematic suggestions, to the end phases of the building process. Exact plant selection and precise detailing are the trademarks of Wirtz International NV. By combining a feel for the existing situation with a firm background in classic landscape architecture and a very modern taste, they enrich their contemporary designs with a refreshing touch. He has designed Alnwick Garden in Northumberland, Les Jardins du Carrousel for The Louvre in Paris and Jubilee Park in Canary Wharf, London.

THE HEPWORTH RIVERSIDE GARDEN JUDGING PANEL:

DAVID LIDDIMENT (CHAIR)

David Liddiment, former Director of ITV Programmes and former BBC Trustee was appointed as the Chair for The Hepworth Wakefield Trust in August 2010. He was educated at Huddersfield New College and Liverpool University and began his TV career at Granada TV Manchester, became well known for his role as Executive Producer of Coronation Street, nurturing a new generation of TV dramatists including Paul Abbott, Kay Mellor, Sally Wainwright, and Russell T Davies. In 1997 David was appointed Director of Programmes at ITV, where he led the channel through a period of creative renewal and commercial success, launching shows like Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? Pop Idol, I'm a Celebrity... and Cold Feet.

In 2002 he set up the new producing company at The Old Vic with Kevin Spacey and produced the first four seasons of plays. In 2006 David was appointed as one of the founding members of the BBC Trust and chaired the Trust's Audiences and Performance Committee, which monitors the performance of all of the BBC's public services. His full 8 year tenure was completed in October 2014. David was co-founder and non-executive director of the independent production company All3Media which grew to become the biggest independent production company in the UK before it was sold last year. He is an associate of The Old Vic Theatre Company and a Media Consultant.

SIMON WALLIS

Simon Wallis was appointed Director of The Hepworth Wakefield in July 2008. He was previously Director of Chisenhale Gallery in East London, Senior Exhibitions Organiser at the ICA, London; Curator at Tate Liverpool; and Curator at Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge. He studied painting at Chelsea School of Art and subsequently at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, USA and gained an MA in Art Gallery and Museum Studies at Manchester University.

JANE MARRIOTT

Jane Marriott joined The Hepworth Wakefield as Deputy Director in August 2014. Previously she was Director of Development and the Royal Academy Trust at the Royal Academy of Arts (RA) in London, where she doubled the annual revenue contribution and raised over £37million for one of the most significant capital campaigns in the Royal Academy's history.

Jane has worked within the arts sector for 20 years. She was Senior Arts Consultant at Kallaway Ltd, advising corporate clients on sponsorship and communication projects with the British Museum, National Theatre and the National Gallery. She played a critical role in the highly successful opening campaign for Tate Modern, spending three years at Tate and prior to that she spent many years in arts marketing, working for leading publishers John Wiley & Sons.

A History of Art graduate and qualified arts marketer, Jane is a trustee of The Reading Agency, a Fellow of the RSA and a regular speaker at conferences.

EDWINA SASSOON

Edwina Sassoon's work in the visual arts began in Cork Street, moving to the Courtauld Institute, organising exhibitions at the British Council, and working at Tate.

In 1990 Edwina set up her own consultancy advising both sides of the arts and business partnership. Her experience covers both commercial and academic fields, public relations and promotion, commissioning works of art, exhibition and event organisation, corporate sponsorship and fundraising. Whilst on the Board of the Friends of the Victoria & Albert Museum, Edwina was a member of the Jury for the V&A Garden Competition. She is a Director of The Friends of the Royal Academy and was responsible for the Tom Stuart Smith secret Courtyard Garden in Keeper's House. She is a Trustee of the Geffrye Museum.

In 2010 Edwina was awarded the Victoria & Albert Museum Knowledge and inspiration Medal.

CHRISTOPHER WOODWARD

Christopher is Director of The Garden Museum, London. An art historian by training he was previously Director of The Holburne Museum of Art, Bath, and Assistant Curator at Sir John Soane's Museum. He was a Trustee of the Heritage Lottery Fund – and a member of its Committee for Yorkshire and Humber – until 2013, and is author of 'In Ruins' (2001).

COUNCILLOR PETER BOX CBE

Councillor Box was first elected in 1982 and became Leader of the Council in August 1998 where he faced the difficult task of changing the fortunes of an under-achieving local authority. Since his appointment, Councillor Box has succeeded in leading the transformation of Wakefield MDC into a modern and efficient authority. In 2010 Peter was awarded a CBE for Services to Local Government.

Having been raised in Castleford and educated at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Wakefield, Peter has a strong and passionate connection with the Wakefield District. He is a Trustee for the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, The Hepworth Wakefield and the National Coal Mining Museum for England, three of the District's most iconic attractions. He is also a member of the Board of Welcome to Yorkshire. Peter lives in Castleford with his wife Judith, they have a grown up son and two grandchildren. Peter has a broad range of interests outside his political life, including travelling, gardening, and a passion for Irish music and literature. Peter is a keen rugby league fan and endeavours to watch his favourite team, the Castleford Tigers, when at all possible.

ANNA PAVORD

Anna Pavord's books include her bestseller, *The Tulip*, *The Naming of Names* and her most recent work, *The Curious Gardener*. Her column in the Independent newspaper has appeared ever since the paper was launched in 1986 and for many years she was an Associate Editor of the magazine *Garden Illustrated*. She served for ten years on the Garden Panel of the National Trust's, the last five as chairman. She also served three 3-year terms on English Heritage's Parks and Garden Panel. In 2001 she was awarded the Gold Veitch medal from the Royal Horticultural Society. For more than 40 years she has lived in Dorset where she garden on a steep sunny slope among arisaemas and magnolias. She became the Vice President of the Wakefield and the North of England Tulip Society in 2015.

DR EVELYN STERN

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Evelyn grew up there and in Bogotá, Colombia, before finishing her Abitur in Germany. With a scholarship from the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, she completed her Bachelor of Arts, Hons, Summa Cum Laude at New York University in Comparative Literature. She was later granted a Master of Arts from Cologne University and a Ph.D. from King's College London.

She was DAAD lecturer for German language and literature at the University of Florence. From 1984 to 1996 she was a director of the publishing house Franco Maria Ricci Editore and executive editor of its international arts magazine, *FMR*. Evelyn now works with David Chipperfield Architects and is a director of David Chipperfield Studio as well as a Trustee of Turner Contemporary in Margate.

MICHAEL ZIFF

Michael is an active investor in recently launched web business; Direct Consumer Retail which started trading footwear in spring 2014, utilising the long established brand Barratts Shoes. He is Director of Town Centre Securities Plc, having joined in 2004, a fully listed property company in which Michael has a substantial interest. He sits on the Trust Board of The Hepworth Wakefield, and is also Vice-President of the United Joint Israel Appeal, President of the UK Israel Business (formally BICC), and Chairman of Maccabi GB, who provide sport and activities for the community.

He has previously held roles as Chairman in several businesses including Bradford Urban Regeneration Company; British-Israel Chamber of Commerce; Yorkshire County Cricket Club Members' Committee Vice Chairman of the United Joint Israel Appeal. Educated at Clifton College Bristol and Leeds University, he was a Council Member of Leeds University between 2001 and 2013, and was appointed Deputy Pro-Chancellor in January 2008. He has also been awarded "Doctor of the University" by the University of Bradford in recognition of his business achievements and for his many contributions to the City of Bradford.

In his spare time, he enjoys running and has competed in the London Marathon and other 10K / half marathons. He is a keen cricketer and attended the Maccabi Games; as Chair of Junior Cricket in 2005, Chair of Junior and Open Cricket in 2009 and as Chair of the Maccabi GB 2013, as well as being an avid supporter of both Leeds United FC and Yorkshire Cricket Club.

CHRIS BLUNDELL

Chris has over 35 years' experience across the farming, food manufacturing, food retailing and hospitality sectors. After graduating with 2 business degrees, he began his business career in 1979 in the Marketing Team at HJ Heinz in London. Moving to supermarket group, WM Morrison in 1983 to establish a new marketing department. He worked there for 25 years of which 23 were spent at Director level in buying and marketing roles.

In 2008 Chris moved from Morrisons to pursue a variety of different business and charitable interests. These include running a 850 acre livestock farm near his home in Thirsk, North Yorkshire. He became a trustee of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) in 2009 following a long term involvement with the RHS Garden at Harlow Carr, Harrogate. Chairman of Provenance Inns & Hotels, a group of 6 fine dining village inns based in North Yorkshire established in 2010, Provenance opened their first hotel in Harrogate in 2014. He is a Partner in Mount St John Sporting, a group of well known grouse, partridge and pheasant shoots, managing in excess of 25,000 acres in North Yorkshire. He is also a Partner in an interior design business based in Yorkshire and London. Chris assists with a number of charitable groups and was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for North Yorkshire in Summer 2014.

THE HEPWORTH WAKEFIELD

The gallery is at the heart of Wakefield's regeneration. Designed by the internationally acclaimed practice, David Chipperfield Architects, it is funded by Wakefield Council and Arts Council England and an increasing number of charitable trusts, private individuals, Patrons and Members. The gallery opened on 21 May 2011 and welcomed its millionth visitor on 5 December 2013.

Address: The Hepworth Wakefield, Gallery Walk, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF1 5AW

Telephone: +44 (0)1924 247360

Admission: Free

Website: www.hepworthwakefield.org

Email: hello@hepworthwakefield.org

Opening Hours: 10am - 5pm Tuesday – Sunday
10am - 9pm Third Thursday of the month
Closed Mondays (except local school holidays and bank holidays)

Travel: By Train: the nearest stations are Wakefield Westgate and Kirkgate
By Car: the gallery is situated off the A61, with nearby links to the M1 motorway. A pay & display visitor car park is located on Thornes Lane, WF1 5QJ, with free blue badge car parking on site
By Bus: the gallery is situated on main bus routes and the FreeCityBus route (Mon-Sat, 9.30am-3pm)
By Bicycle: bicycle racks are located by our main entrance
By Air: the nearest airport is LeedsBradford

Polite Request: The gallery should be cited in full, as The Hepworth Wakefield

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