



▲ Trekking in the Himalayas

The Trailfinders 50th Anniversary garden, designed by Jonathan Snow, won Gold for its impressive re-creation of the foothills of the Himalayas. The use of plants that grow in the temperate zone (6,500ft–13,000ft) produced an effect that was wild, green and jungly, with the Bhutan pine, *Pinus wallichiana*, looking completely at home in SW1. Key plants included *Hydrangea aspera*, with thalictrum, pink-bobbled persicaria, glossy-leaved schefflera and green fronds of the native Himalayan alpine wood fern *Dryopteris wallichiana*.

▼ Plant to remember

Cercis canadensis 'Eternal Flame', entered by Stonebarn Landscapes, won Plant of the Year in a shortlist that included three salvias from Middleton Nurseries; agaves; a vivid little pink ice plant, *Hylotelephium* 'Dream Dazzler'; a distinctive dwarf, *Jacaranda mimosifolia* 'Bonsai Blue'; and a strongly scented marbled lavender sweet pea, *Lathyrus x hammettii* 'Three Times As Sweet'. The leaves of the winner emerge a satisfying deep red, which develops to burnt orange and then to yellow as they mature.



▲ Autumn glory

When the news came that the show was to be delayed until September, many designers scrapped their spring plant palettes, but Hugo Bugg and Charlotte Harris, designers of the show stopping M&G garden, stuck to their guns. As a result, the planting for their reimagination of an urban industrial landscape felt entirely at ease and completely real. By show week, it had taken on the mellow tones of autumn, with flowering grasses, buttery gold *Amsonia tabernaemontana* and starry mauve asters.

