

Design Brief

FANTASY AND REALITY GARDEN

The display garden for the launch of Singaflora 2005 is based on the theme of Fantasy & Reality. Some people like to view gardens to draw inspiration for their own gardens, while other people like to fantasise about having gardens they will never be able to achieve themselves. This garden caters for both types of people.

The garden is designed using shapes of squares and cubes. It is these shapes that symbolise the modern city housing that many of us live in. The garden itself, with a perimeter of 10 x 10m forms a square on the ground. Three cubes of different size are used as the dominant features of this garden

The fantasy is the display of colourful plants from other regions of the world, as well as unique materials and sculpture from around the world. The fantasy is having a larger than normal garden space with colours not usually encountered in Singapore gardens. This is the International part of the garden.

Reality is found in the Terrarium garden; the largest cube which acts as a defined garden space in the back right hand corner of the garden. This is where you enter inside a garden suitable for balcony and small garden inspiration in Singapore. This is the Singapore part of the garden. Entrance to this area is through two jelly bean shaped voids. In this cube is a seating space with paving, planting, and sculpture. Walls are rendered with a black exterior and a red interior. Two portholes also allow for extra viewing into and out of the large cube. The reality garden has a glass roof. This Singapore garden forms the nucleus to the rest of the garden; the Fantasy Garden.

The medium cube to the left is made of dry stacked stone. The Stone is bluestone which is unusual for Singapore. This adds texture to the backdrop of the colourful planting as well as being a feature in the garden. The stone cube also provides some privacy to the lawn at the rear of the garden.

The small cube to the front right of the garden is the water feature. Finished in black enamel paint, water cascades over the top of the steel cube and runs down the sides into a trough below. This creates a glass type effect and will be very calming in the garden.

The hard scape of the garden is finished in neutral tones with feature walls using primary colours. Perimeter walls are white and yellow, paving is white and grey and timber work is black and grey. All this is to provide a backdrop to a very colourful planting palette of mainly red, pink, white, blue, yellow and mauve flower colours.

The design is modern, with an international feel and lots of plant colour for maximum effect. It is not possible to categorise this design into a country of origin. Instead, this garden represents many styles of gardens, appeals to many gardening tastes, and provides inspiration for gardeners interested in 'reality' or 'fantasy' gardening.