

Newspaper*

Wallpaper's hot pick of the latest global goings-on

*Take this season's colour-
popping style onto the streets*

Paint the town

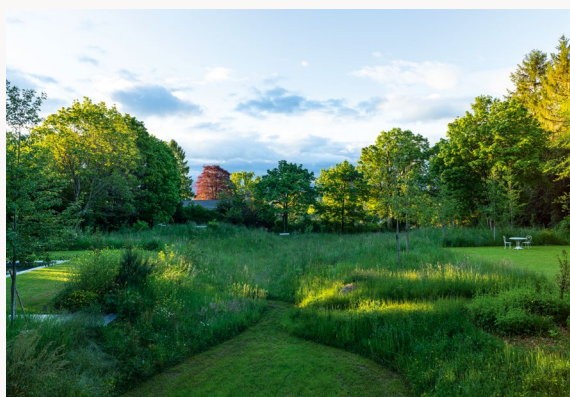
Jacket, £4,500, by Prada
'Aslak' chairs, from £681,
by Ilmari Tapiovaara for
Artek, from The Conran
Shop. Paint in Charlotte's
Locks and Rectory Red,
£84 each for 5 litres, by
Farrow & Ball

For stockists throughout,
see page 176

Model: Leo Comanescu at Chapter MGMT. Hair: Chloe Frieda using Living Proof. Make-up: Rachel Freeman using Chanel Beauty Fall/Winter 2021. Interiors: Jacqui Scalamera



Erik Dhont's landscaped garden for gallerist Karin Handlbauer is designed to complement a renovated 1920s chalet (left) and features a Vals stone swimming pool (below) and an unstructured, undulating terrain (bottom)



A Geneva garden is a spirited balance of art, architecture and nature

Wild side

Designed to complement a renovated and extended 1920s black timber chalet in the countryside outside Geneva, this lush garden is the handiwork of Belgian landscape architect Erik Dhont. A deft hand at blending nature and architecture to produce rich compositions, Brussels-based Dhont created this design for Karin Handlbauer, founder of Galerie Mezzanin, whom he first met 'on a sunny afternoon in Geneva at a dinner under the oak trees'. Fittingly, nature became a recurring theme in their relationship and this project.

Working against a backdrop of the contemporary addition to the existing structure, designed by Frey Architectes, Dhont composed an arrangement that promotes 'a new spirit of art, nature and balance'. About two thirds of the 1.86-acre garden are dedicated to greenery and reforestation, including a leafy, undulating terrain and ponds to attract wildlife. Among Handlbauer's wishes for the garden was for it to feel 'natural and easy-going', and Dhont obliged.

The result is a seemingly 'unstructured' garden that combines an organic feel with the right elements and proportions to cater to a range of functions, from swimming to entertaining and relaxing. 'Architectural gardens are about framing the landscape, but here we worked differently. The void is the architecture, the hard surfaces we use are like spaceships floating in nature,' says Dhont, who cites creatives such as British gardener Russell Page and Sri Lankan architect Geoffrey Bawa as sources of inspiration. Oak, pine, black alder and evergreen shrubs, such as yew and holly, are key features in the garden. Accents are created by cherry, alder buckthorn, lilac, chequer and hornbeam trees, and a sculpture by artist Gianni Motti sits among the plants. A swimming pool that Dhont designed together with the architects in Vals stone, next to a terrace made of local granite, completes the design, adding a cooling water element to the soft, verdant landscape. erikdhont.com