

# STAMFORD LIVING

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## **THIS EDITION INCLUDES:**

Burghley House: Graphic Rewilding's Botanic Tapestry

Freya Goldmark: SIMFestival 2025

Gladwell & Patterson: Bringing Art to Life



# Botanic Tapestry

## Graphic Rewilding at Burghley House

A bold new outdoor art installation is coming to Burghley this month. Clare & Nicholas Rudd-Jones met with artist Catherine Borowski from Graphic Rewilding to discuss their inspiration and work

**T**HE HISTORIC GARDENS of Burghley House are set to be transformed this spring and summer by 'Botanic Tapestry', an exciting outdoor art installation created by Graphic Rewilding. This innovative exhibition features a series of large-scale botanical flags that celebrate the harmony between art, nature and history, bringing a bold new vision to Burghley's stunning grounds.

Each design draws inspiration from the beauty of Burghley's gardens as well as the intricate floral depictions found in the still lifes, marquetry, ceramics and textiles in Burghley's Collections. Graphic Rewilding have offered their own artistic interpretation, weaving nature's beauty into contemporary art. Flowers, insects,

butterflies and foliage come to life, with dynamic patterns and colours reflecting the elegance and energy of Burghley's thriving landscape and rich artistic heritage. More than just a visual statement, Botanic Tapestry highlights the deep connection between nature and wellbeing. This unique art experience invites you to pause, reflect and immerse yourself in the landscape, fostering a renewed appreciation for the natural world around us.

Graphic Rewilding's co-founders Lee Baker and Catherine Borowski are on a mission to reconnect people to the natural world through art to foster positive mental wellbeing. We caught up with Catherine Borowski a fortnight or so before the installation opened, and put a series of questions to her. ►►



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**How did the collaboration with Burghley come about?**

‘We were approached by Marc Beattie, who has recently taken over as Curator of the Burghley Sculpture Garden, and he invited us to throw our hat into the ring. Up until now we have worked mostly on urban projects, bringing nature back into city dwellers’ everyday lives through art. Burghley represented something of a new challenge for us, to interpret the nature that is all around but also the decorative art in the House itself.

‘My creative partner Lee is something of a history of art buff, and he revelled in exploring the House collections to find motifs that could work outdoors, notably the Rembrandt tulip and lotus flowers. But also, our art allows us to represent nature in different ways – we can depict plants that can only be seen for one brief period each year, eg bluebells, or show details in plants that might not be noticed by the naked eye. And we like to mix the exotic, for example, a lotus flower, with the everyday, such as a buttercup.’

**What is the material and creation process?**

‘We find that weave fabric allows great colour saturation to create the brightest of images. We work with a flag company based in the West Country. Once the flags are installed, we love the way they react to weather, rippling in the breeze and creating a form of visual meditation.’

**What do you hope people will take out of it?**

‘We hope it will allow people to reconnect with nature on an individual scale, making it feel more present in their lives. And with some of the motifs there is the link with the House, so there is the chance to make connections and look at things in fresh ways.’

**Did you enjoy your trip to Burghley and Stamford to plan the work?**

‘Very much so. We stayed at the Bull & Swan in St Martin’s for a few days and did as much research as we could on all aspects of Burghley House and its gardens. Our installations tend to be very site specific, so this step is vital.

‘From the lush wild flower meadows and diverse ecosystems to the intricate still life paintings, textiles and Chinese enamelled porcelain housed in the Burghley Collections, the extraordinary beauty of the art, nature and heritage was an endless source of inspiration for us. We fell in love with the place. And felt that we were penning a love letter to it.

‘And, of course, we had a chance to look around Stamford too, and we hugely admired the heritage of the buildings.’

**Timing & Location**

Botanic Tapestry will unfold in two stages, offering visitors fresh perspectives throughout the year. From 15 March to 21 April, the flags will form a grand processional route through Burghley’s South Gardens set against the south façade of Burghley House. With the South Gardens open for just a few weeks each year, this exhibition presents a rare opportunity to explore this exclusive setting while engaging with art in nature.

The installation will then transition to Burghley’s Sculpture Garden for the summer season, running from 26 April to 31 August. Here, it will be reimagined along the picturesque banks of Burghley’s Lake, and Graphic Rewilding will expand the exhibition with additional artworks.

**BOTANIC TAPESTRY: NEED TO KNOW**

- ENTRY TO THE BOTANIC TAPESTRY EXHIBITION IS INCLUDED WITH ANY ADMISSION TICKET OR ANNUAL PASS.
- GARDENS & ADVENTURE PLAY TICKETS BOOKED ONLINE IN ADVANCE COST £10 ADULT, £8 CHILD (3–15 YEARS), £32 FAMILY (2 ADULTS, 3 CHILDREN). HOUSE, GARDENS & ADVENTURE PLAY TICKETS COST £20 ADULT, £9 CHILD (3–15 YEARS), £52 FAMILY (2 ADULTS, 3 CHILDREN); ANNUAL PASSES OFFERING UNLIMITED VISITS START AT £26 FOR A CHILD ANNUAL PASS.
- ADDITIONAL DETAILS, INCLUDING FULL OPENING TIMES AND TICKET INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT BURGHLEY.CO.UK
- TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT GRAPHIC REWILDING VISIT [WWW.GRAPHICREWILDING.COM](http://WWW.GRAPHICREWILDING.COM) | [@GRAPHIC\\_REWILDING](https://www.instagram.com/graphic_rewilding)