
CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Australian Garden of Peace

AMIENS (France)



French-German Garden of Peace M.Blume, G.Brusset, F.Liggieri © Y.Monel

FOR PEACE...BY GILBERT FILLINGER, DIRECTOR OF ART & JARDINS HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

Gardens were first mentioned more than 4,000 years ago. We know very little about the Hanging Gardens of Babylon or the gardens of Cyrus the Great at Pasargadae; these marvelous gardens were described by ancient travelers, where beautiful architecture and plants well-being and happiness seemed to coexist. The history of gardens is long, unfortunately, that of war is too. We know much more about war, destruction, and invasions. Creating a garden and allowing it to take shape according to the designer's dream, takes time. The artist first thinks it out, builds it, then, year after year maintains it with perseverance and attention, and thus allows it to flourish. But the art of the garden, like life, remains ephemeral, subject to bad weather, climate change, and sometimes destruction or war.

The Hauts-de-France, Grand Est and Belgium have suffered from invasions and wars for centuries. This nightmare, this absolute madness that was the First World War claimed the lives of so many people. The violence of destruction, fear and death were the daily life of the civilian and military population for many years; they mark our territories forever.

Celebrating peace is a necessity; recalling the irresponsibility of governments and the consequences that this can have for a nation, a continent, and the whole world, is essential. There is neither victory nor victor in a war. The construction of Europe was carried out after these conflicts, often linked to a withdrawal into national identity, hegemony or even totalitarianism, nothing is ever won. Unfortunately, we can see this today with the return of war to the European continent; the same mistakes keep repeating themselves.

The work carried out for decades by organizations from all over the world to honor the memory of the deceased is exceptional. In 2018, at the time of the commemoration of the centenary of the Great War, creating Gardens of Peace, near or on memorial sites seemed obvious to me, a necessity.

Because the garden is resilience because Peace belongs to all the protagonists of a conflict, we have undertaken, patiently and with conviction, to bring together, landscapers and architects from the belligerent countries to create gardens along the front line in the colors of the nations that were scarred in the conflict. Franco-German, Irish and Northern Irish, Scottish, Italian but also Algerian, New Zealand, Czech and Slovak, Polish gardens... there are now 27 Gardens of Peace which form a unique landscaped trail in Europe.

These Gardens of Peace offer a different, sensitive, and complementary approach to the memorial sites. They trace avenues for reflection on the economic, political, and ecological upheavals of the contemporary world and offer a new look at this peace that is always in question.

OVERALL PRESENTATION

Celebrating remembrance is a necessity; to recall the irresponsibility of the rulers and the consequences that this may entail for a nation, a continent, the whole world is essential. There is never a victory in war. If the construction of Europe took place following these conflicts, often linked to an identity or hegemonic withdrawal or even totalitarian, nothing should be taken for granted. Unfortunately, we can see the same mistakes repeated today.

The memorial work that has been going on for decades by organisations from around the world to honor the memory of those who lost their lives in the Great War is exceptional, in particular for Australians and all nationals of Commonwealth countries. And, since 2018, the year of the commemoration of the centenary of the signing of the armistice, the Association *Art & jardins - Hauts-de-France* has been creating gardens, near or in places of memory where these hundreds of thousands of victims, with landscape architects/designers from belligerent countries whose military forces fought in the region: these gardens are there to provide a necessary look to the future, to question this peace that is always in question, to create spaces for reflection, rest and meditation. Is peace not the companion of everyday life that we are often unable to see and therefore unable to share ? And aren't the artist, the garden the ones who can magnify it ?

The Peace Gardens project, led by the Association *Art & jardins | Hauts-de-France*, has made it possible to set up, with the support of Mission du Centenaire de la Grande Guerre, around fifteen perennial gardens in 2018 and 2019 on the theme of peace in the Hauts-de-France region and in Belgium. Created by landscape designers from countries whose military forces fought in the region, these artistic gardens are grouped into clusters of several gardens, each located in or near Great War memorial sites and tourist remembrance circuits. This new memorial trail bears witness to the number and diversity of countries involved in this conflict.

Since 2020, with the support of the French Ministry of the Armed Forces, the association wishes to extend the Gardens of Peace to other territories in France and thus proposes new projects in the Grand Est region with the French Ministry of the Armed Forces in particular. The aim is to create a Peace Trail, dedicated to the First World War, and which would extend from the Belgian boundaries to the Swiss border via the Nord, the Pas-de-Calais, the Somme, the Aisne, the Oise, the Ardennes, the Marne, the Meuse, the Moselle, the Vosges, the Bas-Rhin and the Haut-Rhin. To date, 27 gardens have been built or are in the process of being built.



Italian Garden - Craonne - Lorenza Bartolazzi Luca Catalano, Claudia Clementini, © Y.Monel

ART & JARDINS I HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

The association Art & Jardins I Hauts-de-France was created in 2017 and has since been engaged in a unique dynamic at the heart of public spaces based on the theme of the garden, an authentic marker of people living together. Since including the International Garden Festival - Hortillonnages Amiens, it has extended its activity to include the entire region and has initiated work on the subject of remembrance by creating a Remembrance Trail around the Gardens of Peace in the Hauts-de-France region, in the Grand Est region and Belgium. It has initiated a landscape garden trail that follows the Somme river, has enhanced the history of the Mining Basin by producing Participatory and Citizens' Gardens and has realized vegetable gardens in High Schools.

The completion of these projects is underpinned by the different themes which meet today's necessities; they enable the transformation of a cultural project into a societal and social project with questions the challenges of tomorrow, principally those of climate change and Peace.

A true catalyst and developer of talents, the association Art & Jardins I Hauts-de-France has several objectives : to assert itself as a production structure and to support landscape, architectural and visual creation, to question natural and heritage sites to enhance and preserve the patrimonial and cultural heritage while developing the attractiveness of the territory, and stimulating economic development, to encourage professional integration, to participate in the social and solidarity economy, to encounter new audiences while developing the attractiveness of the territory.

GARDENS OF PEACE

27 gardens of peace have been already created or are in development.

- Passchendaele, Belgique > French garden : Mathieu Gontier, Pierre David (Wagon Landscaping)
- Le Quesnoy (59) :
 - New-Zealander garden : Xanthe White Design
 - Belgian garden : Thomas Van Eeckhout (Racine carrée) et Mathieu Allain (Maap)
- Flesquières (59) > French-british garden: Sébastien Perret, Sandrine Verrando, James Hartley, Caroline Belette-Gleize et Vivian Jolivet

- Arras (62) > Scottish garden : Anna Rhodes et Melissa Orr
- Notre Dame de Lorette, Ablain Saint Nazaire (62) > French garden : Elise et Martin Hennebicque
- Neuville Saint-Vaast (62)
 - Czech and Slovak garden : Zuzana Nemeckova, Lenka Drevjana et Miroslava Stanekova
 - Polish Garden : Aleksandra Gierko
- Richebourg (62) :
 - Portuguese garden : KWW Studio et Baldios
 - Indian garden : Newarch Landscapes
 - British garden : Lynda Harris et Nicholas Tomlan
- Vimy (62) > Canadian garden : Karyna Saint-Pierre, Julie Parenteau et Pierre-Yves Diehl (Collectif escargo)
- Noyelles-sur-Mer (80) > Chinese garden : Tian Tian, Di Wang, Junmin Chu, Laurent Goyou-Beauchamps
- Thiepval (80) :
 - Welsh garden : Andrew Fisher Tomlin, Dan Bowyer
 - English Garden : Helen et James Basson
- Péronne (80) > Irish and Northern Ireland : Peter Donegan et Ian Price
- Clairière de l'Armistice, Compiègne (60) > French-German Garden: Gilles Brusset, Marc Blume et Francesca Liggieri
- Craonne, Chemin des Dames (02)
 - Italian garden : Lorenza Bartolazzi, Luca Catalano, Claudia Clementini
 - Moroccan garden : Karim El Achak (Atelier Kel) et Bernard Depoorter (BDP)
 - German garden : Thilo Folkerts (100land)
- Braine (02) > Danish garden : Elzéline Van Melle et Rikke Thiirmann Thomsen
- Vouziers (08) > Czech and Slovak garden : SLLA Architects & Atelier Dino
- Metz (57) > Russian-Italian garden : Silvia Calatroni, Elena Markitentova, Tatiana Pleteneva, Alessandro Trivelli
- Navarin, Souain-Perthes-lès-Hurlus (51) > American garden : David Simonson et Coralie Taupin
- Montauville (54) > Algerian garden: Sophia Amrouche, Flore Chantraine
- Ban de Sapt - La Fontenelle (88) > French garden: Pierre Presse, Alexander Schofield
- Hartmannswillerkopf (HWK) - Wattwiller (68) > French-German garden : Cyril Servettaz, Jan Becker, Uwe Müller

AWARDS RECEIVED / PRIX REÇUS

- 2022 :for the entire Peace Gardens project - Special Award of the Jury of the European Garden Heritage Network (EGHN)
- 2021 : French-German Garden- Compiègne (60) : Gilles Brusset, Marc Blume et Francesca Liggieri
1st Prize : Innovative contemporary concept for design of a park or garden - European Garden Heritage Network (EGHN) -
- 2020 : German Garden: Thilo Folkerts (100land) - Has been selected with the 11 finalists of the Barcelona Biennial

AMIENS

Amiens is in northern France in the Hauts-de-France region, it is the largest city in the Department of the Somme with 134,000 inhabitants.

Amiens is the historical and cultural capital of Picardy and has a very rich heritage. The city is best known for its vast Gothic cathedral. The river Somme runs through Amiens along with its many canals and is also home to the floating gardens (the Hortillonnages). The textile industry greatly contributed to the economic wealth of the city from the Middle Ages until the 1950s. It is also a metropolis that welcomes 31,500 students, and a part of the University has now been moved into the old Citadel.

Amiens was behind the front line during the First World War, and today it is still the gateway to the Memorial sites that have scarred the territory of the Somme.

AMIENS DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Amiens and the region were very badly impacted by the First World War. From the start of the war in 1914, German troops invaded the east of the Somme and occupied Amiens from the end of August until 10 September 1914.

The city then became a very important centre behind the front line during the Battle of the Somme: soldiers came for medical treatment and to rest and recover before returning to the trenches. It was an international crossroads, with soldiers of more than twenty nationalities from the different colonies.

AUSTRALIAN TROOPS

From the start of hostilities in August 1914, Australia joined forces with Great Britain along with the whole of the British Empire. Alongside the New Zealanders, they formed the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) and led their first offensive on 25th April 1915 at Gallipoli in Turkey.

On the western front, the French army was mainly mobilized at Verdun, but the offensive became more British in 1916. The Battle of the Somme saw the British and the French fighting alongside from 1st July to 18th November 1916 and was intended to relieve the pressure on the French defenders of Verdun by drawing German reserves into the battle. This battle was long and deadly with around 1,060,000 casualties, including 420,000 British dead or missing.

The first ANZAC intervention in the Somme was on 23rd July 1916 in Pozières then in April 1918 in Villers-Bretonneux. From the 24th to 26th of April, after a very hard fight, the Australian expeditionary force stopped the German thrust and prevented Amiens from falling into enemy hands. In July, under the command of General Monash, Australian troops seized Le Hamel and in August broke through the German front with the Canadians, then advanced towards Roye and fought in the Aisne in October and November.

More than 416,000 Australians enlisted and 313,000 fought on the Western Front. 128,000 New Zealanders enlisted and more than 90,000 fought in France and Belgium between 1914 and 1918. On all fronts of the Great War, over 76,000 Australians and New Zealanders died.

In these regions, many memorial sites today recall the memory of the ANZACs. This is particularly true in the Somme and in Amiens. Bonds of mutual recognition still unite Australia and France and are commemorated every year on 25th April, ANZAC Day. An Australian national memorial has been erected at Villers-Bretonneux in memory of their soldiers, the Diggers, who died in action in France and Belgium. A “Bailey bridge”, donated by Australian engineers to honour the memory of military engineers during the war, will be installed in April 2024 near the “Jardin des Plantes” in Amiens.

THE CITADEL

The Garden of Peace will be at the foot of the Citadel, an important place in the history of Amiens, at the entrance to the city centre.

The Citadel of Amiens was built on an old Roman road at the request of Henri IV who wanted to protect the northern border of his kingdom after the capture of Amiens by the Spaniards in 1597. The Citadel was built between 1598 and 1610, and completed in 1622, it is a vast pentagonal work with five bastions, a moat and is surrounded by a covered way. The Citadel was accessed by three separate gates, the southern gate, or royal gate was the main gate until 1859.

During the Second World War, the Citadel was a place of resistance, then, under German occupation, became a place of detention, torture and execution. From 1871 to 1979, the Citadel was a garrison for the French army. In 1993 ownership was transferred to the City of Amiens.

Of the five original bastions of the Citadel, only three remain. The Citadel is brick built with protruding stone reinforcements. The Citadel occupies an area of 18 hectares and has undergone major renovation under the direction of architect Renzo Piano. Since September 2018 it has become home to part of the University of Picardy Jules Verne.

THE SPACE CONCERNED

The Australian Peace Garden will be located opposite the southern entrance to the Citadel.

The site will be permanently open to visitors: University students, walkers and tourists will be free to wander in the gardens.

The garden must remain within the green perimeter lines shown on the drawing. The central strip is not included and must be preserved as much as possible. The archaeological remains of a bridge are present at a shallow depth.

Given the archaeological interest of the site, excavation should be kept to a minimum.



FROM DESIGN TO COMPLETION

With an eye on the future, this Garden of Peace will be testimony to the vitality of artistic creation to French-Australian friendship 100 years after the end of the First World War.

The proposed garden should take into account the specifics of the site and its technical limitations. An on-site visit, paid for by the organiser, must be carried out before the final submission of the project.

The durability of the garden must be considered. The design must take into account its evolution over time: the plantation plan must adapt to the seasons with preference given to plants requiring little maintenance (eg perennials). Regional suppliers should be given priority for the various purchases.

The garden must be accessible to people with reduced mobility and therefore meet the current French standards (hard pathways, free of obstacles, with a limited slope and a minimum width of 1.40m etc.).

The garden must be designed with the long term in mind. The design must consider its evolution over time: the planting plan must adapt to the seasons and preference should be given to plants that require little maintenance such as perennials. Seats can be installed. Regional suppliers should be used where possible for purchased items.

The site has an important historical and heritage value and is also home to a protected species of bat. The plans for the garden will therefore be subjected to several administrative approvals and the selected landscapers must follow these procedures and provide the necessary information to the various authorities.

The selected team will need to actively take part in the garden design : its effective presence on site, for the follow-up of the work, is essential. The team will be advised and accompanied during this implementation stage by the Technical Director of Art & jardins - Hauts-de-France.

At the end of the project, the artists must provide the organisers with a complete and explicit maintenance sheet for their garden.

CONDITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This request for candidates is aimed at **professional landscaper designers and architects of Australian nationality**. The team will consist of a minimum of Australian people and one landscape designer / architect or a person competent and experienced in the field of the garden.

Applications can be from individuals or groups. If the application is from a group, only the expenses of two people will be covered for the periods of residency.



SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applications will be assessed and selected by an Artists Committee with qualified specialists : landscapers, representatives of Amiens and Art & jardins - Hauts-de-France...

The Artists Committee will go through each application, rating each one according to the following criteria:

- The artistic value of the itinerary / 50%
- Whether or not the candidate took into account the theme of peace and made the best use of the natural and historical environment of the site in their letter of intent / 30%
- Technical and budgetary feasibility / 20%

CALENDAR

Application deadline : **September 24, 2023 (inclusive)**

Selected candidates undertake :

- By 20 October 2023 : to visit the site
- By 27 November 2023 : to submit the project for the garden
- By mid-April 2024 : to finalize the garden

FINANCIAL TERMS

The production budget to create the garden is a maximum of 110 000 euros (including VAT). This amount is managed with the Organiser.

In addition to this amount, the organiser will bear the costs of travel/accommodation :

- for the preparatory visit / for two person maximum
- for the garden development period / for two persons maximum
- for the launch / for two persons maximum

The amount directly allocated to the landscapers is a fixed fee of 8,800 Euros including tax (VAT). This amount includes copyrights as well as design and development fees.

APPLICANT FILES

The files must be submitted in English or French in electronic form (only 1 PDF document) **before September 24, 2023** (11:59 pm-French time) to the following address : **artetjardins.hdf@gmail.com**

Applicant files comprise :

- A cover letter of no longer than five pages, including a design sketch and a range of plants
- An up-to-date portfolio of no more than ten pages containing the applicant's general approach and accompanied by legends for a selection of previous works
- A curriculum vitae
- A copy of the applicant's national identification card or passport
- The completed registration form

REGISTRATION FORM - CALL FOR PROPOSALS - AUSTRALIAN GARDEN OF PEACE

This sheet must be completed and submitted with the candidature file before 24 September 2023 (11:59 pm - French time)

For individual applicants :

NOM / SURNAME - Prénom / First name :

Nationalité / Nationality :

Adresse postale / Address :

Téléphone / Phone number:

E-mail address :

Site internet / Website :

For group :

Name of group :

Name of group members participants in the project :

Please list the person responsible for the group's communication at the top of the list.

NOM / SURNAME - Prénom / First name :

Nationalité / Nationality :

Adresse postale / Address :

Téléphone / Phone number:

E-mail address :

Site internet / Website :

NOM / SURNAME - Prénom / First name :

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Site internet / Website :

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Nationalité / *Nationality* :

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Téléphone / *Phone number*:

E-mail address :

Site internet / *Website* :

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