



INTERNATIONAL AWARD & PLANTING DESIGN & THE GRAND AWARD

TRIPLE
WINNER

WINNER: James Basson MSGD for Les Canebiers

SPONSORS: Landform (International), Barcham (Planting Design), Harrod (The Grand Award)

SIZE: 19,000m² **BUDGET:** £2.9m approx

COMPLETED IN JUNE 2015, this large project in the South of France won James Basson three trophies on the night, making him the big winner of this year's awards.

The brief for this arid and sloping site was to have a 'very definite garden' leading from the house to the stables and horse arena beyond. This formal part of the site is now a series of terraces. The gardens of the traditional *bastides* (country houses) of the area are reflected in formal, tree-lined *allées* and traditional stone walls. There are also several spaces for entertaining, an enlarged pool area, a new driveway, decorative planting at the front of the property and a secluded garden at the back, complete with Jacuzzi. A woodland walk and children's play area are also included. Alongside the formal part of the garden are a series of six paddocks, a newly-planted orchard and an olive grove.

James devised a repeated and complex planting scheme, which is loose and informal, and offers year-round interest. There were also 160 large trees. For him, the best part of the project was "to see the revival of the landscape, adding a delicate aspect to a piece of land that had been brutalised".

What the judges said:

"This design shows great affinity with the space, on a particularly difficult site. Very sophisticated and well executed. Wonderful swathes of linear planting offer great rhythm and flow. A clear winner."

About the awards

The International Award is awarded to a garden or landscape project outside of the UK created by a Fellow, Registered or Partially Registered Member of the SGD. The Planting Design Award is awarded to a planting scheme that conveys innovative, creative, functional, aesthetic and environmental design solutions, created by Fellows, Registered, Partially Registered and Pre-registered members of the SGD. The Grand Award is selected from the winners of the International, Public or Commercial, Large, Medium and Small Residential and Pocket Garden categories.



ABOVE Tree-lined *allées* as often seen in traditional country houses in France

LEFT The enlarged pool area

BOTTOM The planting scheme is loose and informal



SGD 2015 AWARDS



THE SGD AWARDS 2015

THE WINNING DESIGNS

ON 29 JANUARY, the Landmark Hotel in London was the glamorous setting for the Society of Garden Designers annual awards ceremony. Designers hoping for glory drank Champagne and mingled with sponsors and journalists, before being called to the Grand Ballroom for the opening speeches.

Joe Swift was MC for the evening and entertained with humorous observations about the prevalence of double-barrelled names in garden design and other gentle jibes. SGD chairman Phillippa O'Brien and headline sponsor Stephanie Harrod of Harrod Horticultural also said a few words before dinner.

The winners of the many categories were announced by Joe and a selection of award sponsors. The

champions collected their plaques on stage before being whisked off for photographs.

Finalists in each category received certificates. Notable winners included James Basson MSGD (above right with Stephanie Harrod), who picked up three awards; John Moreland FSGD who won two awards; as did Pre-registered member Emily Erlam and student member Tom Massey.

The night continued in the Empire Room, and then in the Mirror Bar until the small hours, in celebration of the achievements of the winners and finalists (above left).

Find out more about the winning projects on the following pages, and go to www.sgdawards.com to see more images from the night.

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AWARDS SPONSORS:

