

# Grant Associates design a Forest of Imagination in Bath UK

Landscape architects create a magical fantastical landscape at the heart of the City of Bath

**grant associates**

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Summary **Landscape architects Grant Associates have designed The Forest of Imagination to transform Bath's historic Queens Square into a temporary fantastical landscape and outdoor gallery for a four-day contemporary arts event in May 2015.**

Details Landscape architects Grant Associates have designed The Forest of Imagination to transform Bath's historic Queens Square into a temporary fantastical landscape and outdoor gallery for a four-day contemporary arts event in May 2015.

The Forest of Imagination design includes:

**The Forest enclosure** featuring mixed forest saplings, understorey grasses and a willow tunnel running across the middle. Playing with space the mini forest will be made giant by the tiny world created within it of small creatures, dwellings and birds with an art installation by artist Edwina Bridgeman.

**The Forest Pole enclosure** created by Charley Brentnall will work round a complete circle to create a self-supporting enclosure.

**The Bamboo enclosure**, designed by Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios, is a 14.4m x 12 m space screened with vertical bamboo canes. Musical devices are attached to the poles for interaction with the visitors. Performances and activities will take place at the centre of the enclosure.

**A gigantic magic white rabbit** 6.5 meters in height will be inflated and pop up in different locations in the Forest throughout the four-day event.

Andrew Grant, Director, Grant Associates, said: "The Forest of Imagination reinvents Queen Square as an artistic, playful world where the creative spirit of the city has fun with this familiar Georgian landscape. It's a wake up call to let everyone know Bath did not stop evolving 200 years ago."

Penny Hay, Director, 5x5x5=creativity and Senior Lecturer at Bath Spa University, said: "We believe, and research shows, that creativity and imagination can enhance wellbeing and transform lives. The Forest of Imagination is an invitation to adults and children to come and explore their own creativity and imagination. We want to put Bath on the map as a constellation of creative activity."

**Bath city creative collaboration**

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Bath-based creative partners involved in creating the magical experience include children's charity 5x5x5=creativity, award-winning architects Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios, design studio Ideas of the Mind, Herman Miller Cares, Bath Illuminate, Carpenter Oak, Bath Spa University and The House of Fairy Tales. Artists and designers already signed up to the event include Edwina Bridgeman, Jono Burgess, Jessica Palmer, John East, and students from Bath Spa University.

The Forest of Imagination runs from 15-18 May 2015 and features a playful programme of installations, artworks and activities for all ages. The House of Imagination runs alongside offering a creative learning programme of workshops giving children and adults the opportunity to be immersed in creative enquiry alongside professional contemporary artists, designers and architects.

This is the second year that Forest of Imagination has been staged in Bath, after a successful debut in the grounds of Bath School of Art and Design, Bath Spa University on Sion Hill in July 2014.

For more information visit [www.forestofimagination.com](http://www.forestofimagination.com).

**-ENDS-**

#### **Notes to Editors**

##### **Forest of Imagination**

Forest of Imagination is a contemporary arts event transforming Queen Square into a magical forest to showcase Bath's often hidden creativity and includes a garden and an outdoor gallery – 'a gallery without walls' with a series of artworks and temporary architectural structures. Meanwhile the House of Imagination brings a playful programme of workshops and events. It takes place from 15-18 May 2015 and it is free to attend with something for everyone. Forest of Imagination is created in partnership with 5x5x5=creativity, Grant Associates, Ideas of the Mind, Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios, Bath Illuminate, Carpenter Oak, Herman Miller, RSA, Bath Spa University. Herman Miller and Bath & North East Somerset are confirmed sponsors. [www.forestofimagination.com](http://www.forestofimagination.com)

##### **5x5x5=creativity**

5x5x5=creativity, is an arts-based action research organisation with charitable status that supports children and young people in their exploration and expression of ideas, helping them develop creative skills for life. [www.5x5x5creativity.org.uk](http://www.5x5x5creativity.org.uk)

##### **Grant Associates**

Grant Associates is a British Landscape Architecture consultancy specialising in creative, visionary design of both urban and rural environments worldwide, working with some of the world's leading architects and designers. [www.grant-associates.uk.com](http://www.grant-associates.uk.com)

##### **Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios**

Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios is an award winning practice with an international reputation for design quality, for pioneering environmental

expertise and a radical architectural approach. [www.fcbstudios.com](http://www.fcbstudios.com)

### **Illuminate Bath**

Illuminate Bath is free, inclusive and accessible to all with over 30,000+ visitors. The projections and installations throughout the city are an inspiration to photographers and filmmakers alike. [www.illuminatebath.org](http://www.illuminatebath.org)

### **Ideas of the Mind**

Ideas of the Mind is a graphic design, branding and web design agency based in Bath. [www.ideasofthemind.com](http://www.ideasofthemind.com)

### **RSA**

The RSA (Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce) is an enlightenment organisation committed to finding innovative practical solutions to today's social challenges. Through its ideas, research and 27,000-strong Fellowship it seeks to understand and enhance human capability to close the gap between today's reality and people's hopes for a better world. [www.thersa.org](http://www.thersa.org)

### **Bath Spa University**

Three schools from Bath Spa University are collaborating for the Forest of Imagination - The School of Art and Design, Education, and Humanities and Cultural Industries. Recognised as one of the UK's top creative universities in the *Which?* University Student Survey, Bath Spa University is a leading university for creativity, culture and enterprise, offering a wide range of creative degree courses across visual arts and design, heritage and publishing, and education. [www.bathspa.ac.uk](http://www.bathspa.ac.uk)

- Quotes
- “ *The Forest of Imagination reinvents Queen Square as an artistic, playful world where the creative spirit of the city has fun with this familiar Georgian landscape. It's a wake up call to let everyone know Bath did not stop evolving 200 years ago*  
— Andrew Grant, Director, Grant Associates
  
  - “ *We believe, and research shows, that creativity and imagination can enhance wellbeing and transform lives. The Forest of Imagination is an invitation to adults and children to come and explore their own creativity and imagination. We want to put Bath on the map as a constellation of creative activity.*  
— Penny Hay, Director, 5x5x5=creativity and Senior Lecturer at Bath Spa University

Images









Grant Associates is a British Landscape Architecture consultancy specialising in creative, visionary design of both urban and rural environments worldwide, working with some of the world's leading architects and designers.

Inspired by the connection between people and nature Grant Associates fuses nature and technology in imaginative ways to create cutting edge design built around a concern for the social and environmental quality of life.

Grant Associates has experience in all scales and types of ecological and landscape development including strategic landscape planning, master planning, urban design and regeneration and landscapes for housing, education, sport, recreation, visitor attractions and commerce.

For more information visit [www.grant-associates.uk.com](http://www.grant-associates.uk.com)