

FLOWER

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FROM THE EDITOR

Traditionally flowers have always been part of Christian churches' ceremonies of memorials, funerals and worship. These days the traditions are just as strong although with little or no budgets artificial flowers are becoming more and more evident as the big gardens and free resources available in the past start to disappear.

Therefore it is always a treat to see real flowers and inspirational arrangements emerging when the team is invited to events celebrating Christian festivals. In this edition we take you to the Czech Republic and to New Zealand for such celebrations. You will find plenty of new techniques, interesting interpretations and fabulous construction methods you can use and adapt for your own pieces. We have videoed several interviews with the New Zealand designers to give you real insight into their thoughts as well... just like being there!

Still on the subject of big events, in this edition you will also find a floral art form rarely seen outside the USA. It is called 'Exhibition Tables' and with it's own set of rules is a fascinating hobby. The participants create table settings that have been reduced to include the key components of the real thing, but confined to a small space. The objects selected have to be arranged rather like a still life in an artistic way.

A great idea in it's own right, from an outsider's point of view they are actually perfect modern mood boards to record colours and forms for planning an event with clients. The accomplished practitioners convey great ideas so if you ever get the chance to see this art form outside these pages, do make the opportunity to see what they do... you will come away with lots of new ideas for your next floral table.

Enjoy and happy arranging,



TRICIA LEGG EDITOR



On the left, Poppie Engelbrecht works on the fabulous church design featured on the cover and page 81/82. Born in South Africa Poppie now lives in Tauranga New Zealand and was the passionate organiser behind the 'flowers in praise' event covered from page 75.



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MEMORIALS MEMORIALS

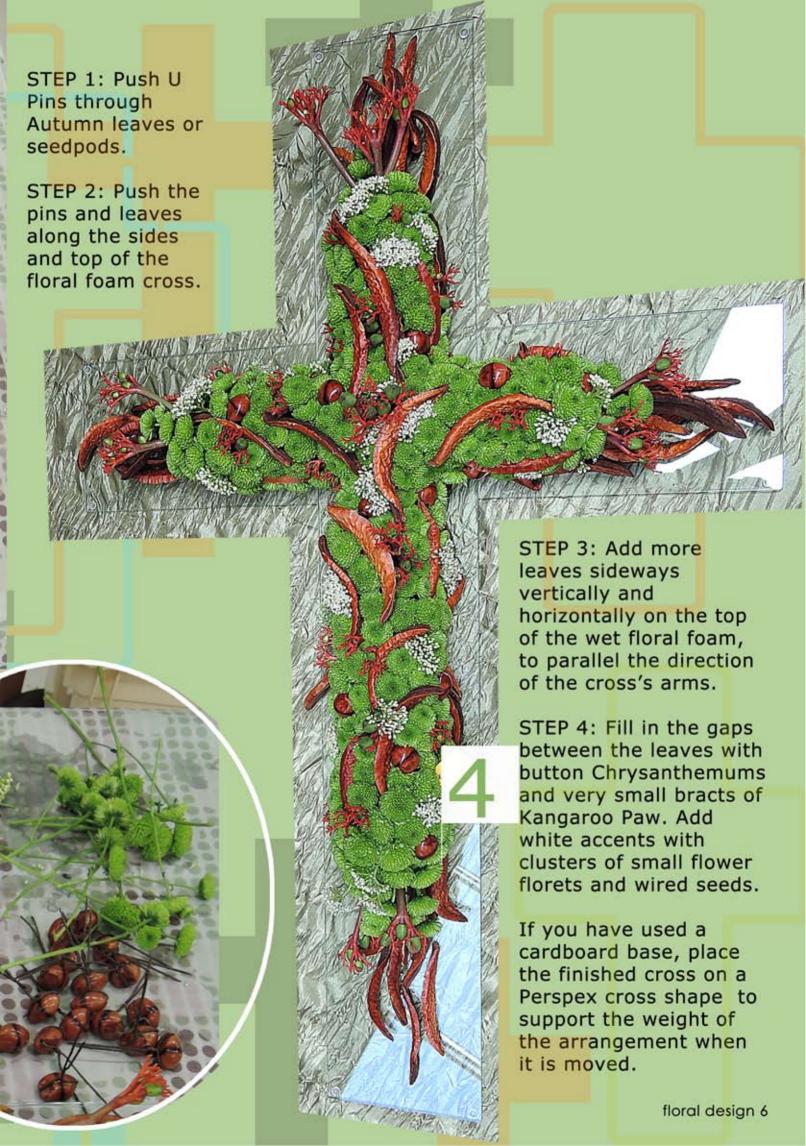
PHOTOGRAPHY PAVOL KAŠŠÁK

Every culture has it's time of mourning and remembrance for those who have died. For many, the cross is a powerful symbol during this time. The florists at the 45th year of the Czech championship in flower arranging, Decinska Kotva, are waiting to show you how to make such cross shaped floral tributes.

These tributes all start with a commercial floral foam cross base. They are available with either a cardboard or plastic backing. The cardboard, once wet, does bend and break under the weight of the plant material and so although they are cheaper, only use them with plant material that does not require water or if they are supported from underneath.

























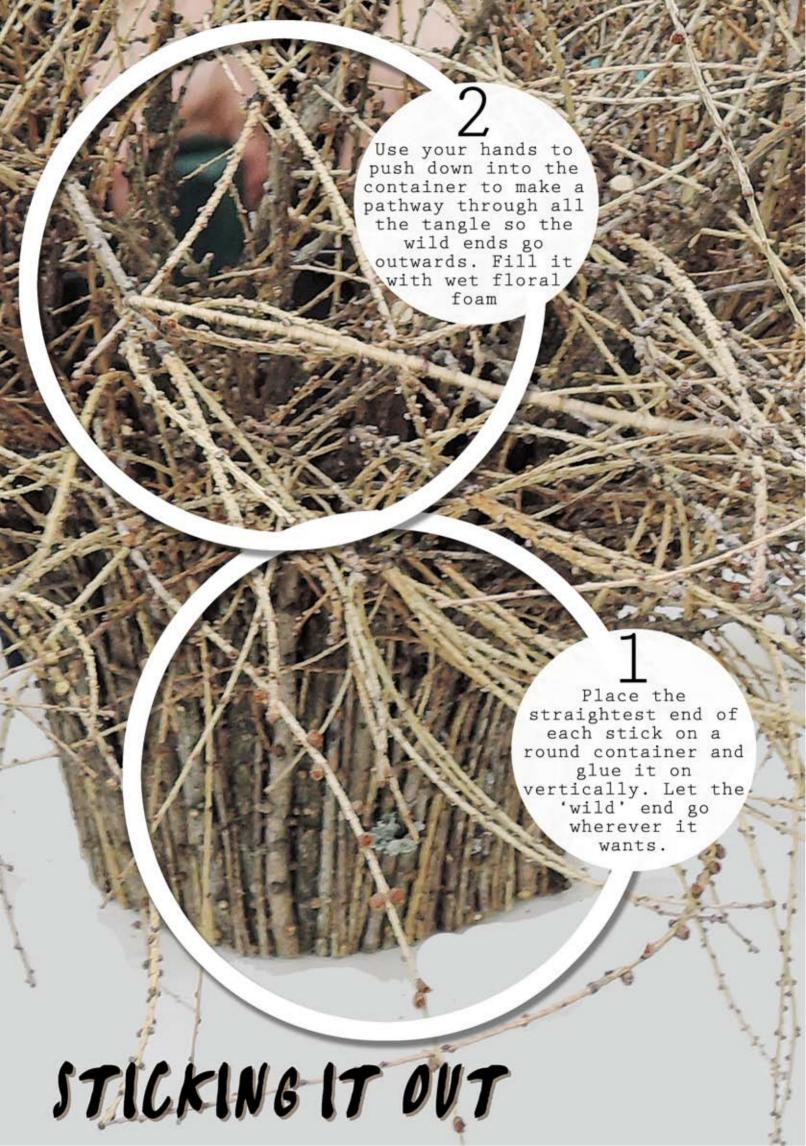




STICKING IT OUT



ONE THING YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND IN ABUNDANCE IS STICKS~ even if you live in an apartment you are bound to find an empty space full of weeds, or a gardener in a park trimming trees in Autumn. This is your opportunity to find out how to transform these sticks into fabulous bases for two entrance arrangements.







STICKING IT OUT



TABLE SETTINGS american style MOOD BOARDS



Photos, resources and wisdom by Jan Maynard



A unique floral art form has developed in the USA that started many years ago with artistic people planning fabulous table settings. These days we call them mood boards as interior designers pin all the chosen colours, textures and accessories on to a board so customers can visualise the end result.

Jan Maynard, Floral Designer

The wonderful world of floral design has enriched my life and given me so much pleasure over the past fifty years, and has forged so many precious friendships! It all began in Japan in the early 1960s, when I was able to study ikebana—the new, avant garde Sogetsu School. A return to Washington State, I discovered Garden Club and flower shows! I continued studying on my own, joined a garden club, and was welcomed to join a design guild. I finally became an Accredited Master Judge!! I am now a Judge Emeritus and enjoy our balcony garden in our high-rise apartment in an independent living retirement community in Colorado, where I work with flowers and enjoy watercolour painting.

As the discipline evolved the Table Exhibition Class in American flower shows was born. Although they are now very disciplined, structured and bound by many rules, displays remain an incredible resource of ideas for real table settings. In fact they are the ultimate in mood boards because in one of the subclasses. a floral arrangement has to be created too.



TABLE SETTINGS american style

"The prospect of coordinating so many components may seem daunting at first and perhaps too complicated. One should not be discouraged, however; practice will lead to many successful combinations. A worthwhile exercise is to gather together a sampling of all available table coverings, candles, glassware, etc. With everything on hand at once, experiment with different combinations to determine which are most pleasing. With this accomplished...it is easier to decide which container, design style and plant material will be suitable..." quoted from *Creative Flower Arranging* Betty Belcher, 1993 Timber Press, Inc

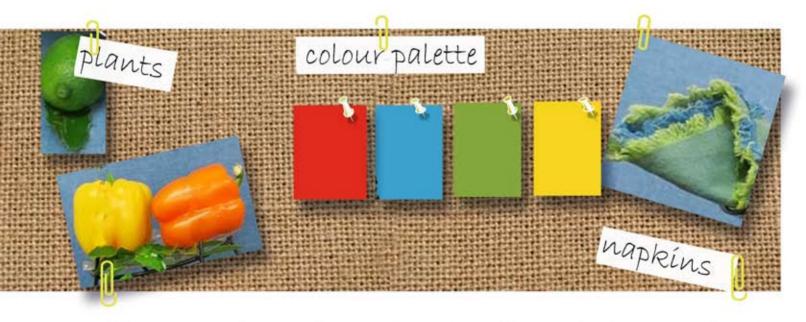


"There are two types of Exhibition tables, which the following guidelines govern equally. Each must include both plant material and components related to dining. The Type I Exhibition table is distinguished by its inclusion of a floral design that is complete in itself—one that would be effective even if it were removed from its setting in the exhibit. The Type II Exhibition table requires the inclusion of plant material, but not in a floral design as such. The only difference between the two is the way plant material is used." Creative Flower Arranging Betty Belcher, 1993 Timber Press, Inc





Jan Maynard adds, "Exhibition tables are staged in many ways--as a floor design, a tabletop design, a miniature/small design (5/8"), or on a panel (this IS a challenge!). Other innovative staging is encouraged, and I have seen them staged on a chair, an inverted stool, and a wheelbarrow, for instance. Innovative staging adds to the interest of the presentation. There are two types, I and II-- they are most easily remembered by thinking that Type I is with a completed floral design, and Type II is without a design, but requires the presence of some plant material, which allows a great deal more freedom for the designer."



"As to a step by step lesson, I'm not sure I can write it out step by step. Like most design, one does it by the seat of one's pants.

In general, I begin designing an exhibition table as follows;

First, is an Exhibition Table Type I or Type II called for in the show schedule?

Next--What is the class title?--does it create a distinct theme? Do I tell a story or sell the china (as in store display)?--either way can be fun. The manner of dining and level of formality creates the ambiance of the exhibit.

The next step-choosing a colour scheme-- is most often based on a ready-made one contained in the plates or napkins.

Staging is the next consideration--"designer's choice" is easiest from a conceptual point of view, but sometimes the schedule has requirements that must be met."



TABLE SETTINGS american style MOOD BOARDS

"The most creative work will result if the schedule simply specifies "staged in an innovative manner". Boxes, constructions, picnic baskets, panels, racks, shelving, or step stools are among the possibilities; both Plexiglas (Perspex) and wood are popular materials. Some components may be raised by using small boxes, bases, or stands; the same result is accomplished more creatively by stacking or suspension. A plate is often displayed on a plate stand; cups and goblets may be on their sides, upside down, or suspended." *Creative Flower Arranging* Betty Belcher, 1993 Timber Press, Inc.



"A background, frame, or niche creates a frame of reference, and this space demands to be creatively employed. One or more frames may be used as staging, with components placed inside, atop, or suspended from the frame using nylon monofilament." Creative Flower Arranging Betty Belcher, 1993 Timber Press, Inc.

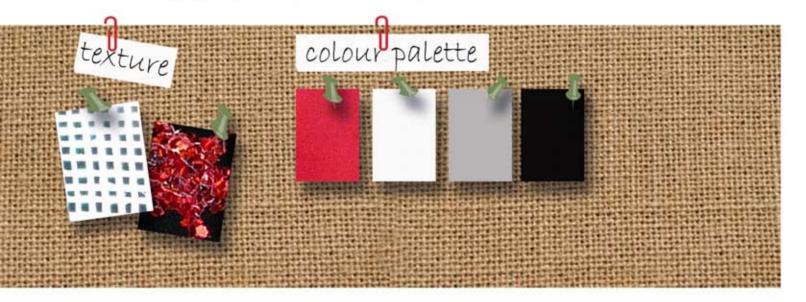
Jan says, "I find that nylon monofilament (fishing line) is difficult to tie knots in, and tends to stretch over time. I prefer to use sewing thread, or similar, the same color as the background. If the design is freestanding, black thread almost disappears."





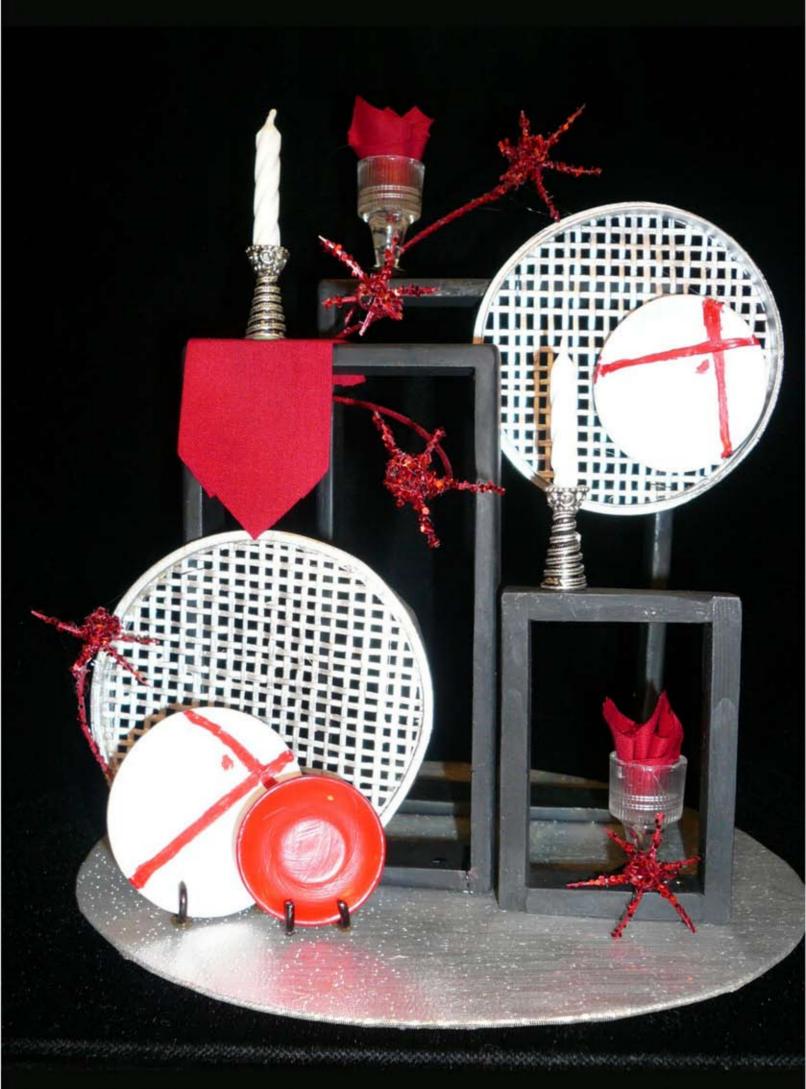
"The design should extend forward and back outside the narrow depth of the frame in order to create proper third dimension. Avoid the common error of using only the bottom portion of a large space. The creative division and use of space is vital."

"Because the Type II Exhibition table does not require a complete floral design, staging may be even more innovative. These exhibits are closely related to a Still Life Design...insofar as the use of plant material is concerned. At their most creative, they are reminiscent of settings sometimes seen in advertisements or store displays." Creative Flower Arranging Betty Belcher, 1993 Timber Press, Inc.



"Another type of table—one strictly for flower shows—is the Exhibition Table. Its purpose is to illustrate the correlation between table components. Functional considerations are put aside; rather the Exhibition table is a study of form, innovatively staged in such a way as to provide a pleasing overall effect.." Creative Flower Arranging Betty Belcher, 1993 Timber Press, Inc.

Jan says," The Class title for this one is: Black Tie--A Small (8") design." Eight inches is 20 centimetres so in either measurement system, this American Style mood board is really tiny! The idea isn't fortunately as red, black, silver and white always look elegant and stylish.





If you are wondering where to start Jan suggests, "I have found that a beautiful or stunning or interesting plate or mug can provide a good inspiration for the whole design—the other components can complement the one interesting piece. A good source for such treasures is a thrift shop or second-hand shop. A printed napkin can also jump start your design's colour scheme or enhance it's theme."



"The object of the Type II Exhibition table is to create a single, unified, overall design suggesting the correlation of table components and plant material.

Plant material is not restricted to a container, however; it may be placed on the table, background, frame, or niche, or suspended within the allotted space, in any position indicated by the principles of design. Only the amount required for the desired effect should be included; several pieces may be needed to accomplish this, but often the inclusion is as subtle as a single flower, leaf, or branch.

Water picks may be used to supply water for plant material requiring it as long as they are hidden from view in the scheme of the design, or become an active part of the design. " Creative Flower Arranging Betty Belcher, 1993 Timber Press, Inc.







Can you imagine these fabulous table exhibits freed from their current place in American flower shows and garden club competitions and becoming a regular way of displaying glassware, china, table linen and even wine in shop windows and interior design stores globally? Always with flowers included of course!

As they have evolved they have not only become fabulous table setting ideas but also really innovative window dressings usually only found in the most expensive of department stores. Yet any of the talented specialists in this floral art form could easily have a career in the world of product displays.

If you are interested in the schedules and rules associated with this art form in the USA, *CLICK HERE* to download a PDF file with all the detailed information.





The Challenge FOR YOU AND US from Jan Maynard

And then Jan Maynard sent Tricia Legg, Editor of floral design magazine a challenge.. to have a go herself. Not one to say "no" when "yes" is more fun and interesting, Tricia immediately asked Jan for more advice having never created anything like this before.

Jan replied, "The best way to teach is to do it yourself, then turn around and teach someone else.

So--- where do you start? The easiest way is to design to a title or theme, so I'll give you a challenge. Here are four titles to choose from--whichever one you feel would be of interest to your readers. Give it a try, and see what you come up with.

Here they are-Safari Supper
Ladies Who Lunch
Harvest fest
Dinner at the Captain's Table

OK--read the material I've sent then pick a title. Next assemble things and staging that you think will work--that will express the title--sit down with a cup of tea or glass of wine (not necessary, but sometimes it helps you get your mind in gear) and start playing with your components. You'll have the pictures to help guide you. A common fault is that they get bottom-heavy--it's important to have interest throughout the allotted space. Eventually, you will create a design that is pleasing to you. If nothing else, you will learn and grow from the exercise".

AND floral design magazine in turn, challenges you. Tricia's first attempts are on the next page, but have a go too and send us your efforts.





DESIGN THOUGHTS:

Ten or more passengers on a large cruise ship, dining on a large round table with the Captain calls for a large central floral design that can be seen through. That means glass.

Fresh foliage needs to be long lasting to be stored on board if this ship is an ocean liner, so Iris Japonica leaves and Arum lilies are the answer as they last a month in water.

Vintage cutlery in sterling silver with bone handled knives for a ton of class and the handles connect visually with the yellow in the Lilies.. Antique white Damask cloth (what a loathsome thing to pleat and iron!) with matching napkins.

Crisp modern white square plates to bring the vintage items into a contemporary world (contrast) and a gold glass decorated with a single Iris Japonica leaf to bring the central floral piece down to the diner's level.. and as a conversation starter and to provide unity.

THE PROCESS:

The floral arrangement was easy, as Tricia was well inside her comfort zone, but placing the other objects to give a pleasing exhibition piece was much more challenging. How to balance those plates to give a 3D appearance yet account for their weight was the first obstacle. Using special plate holders would have helped but no such thing in our little New Zealand village!

Finding two blocks of white polystyrene was a delight to not only stab the cutlery into but also to raise them up to fill the middle space. They also took the weight of the plates.

CONCLUSION:

This floral art form is a whole lot harder than laying a real table for an event! It requires a great understanding of all the design principles as well as actual weight and balance. It was interesting, fun and possibly very addictive!

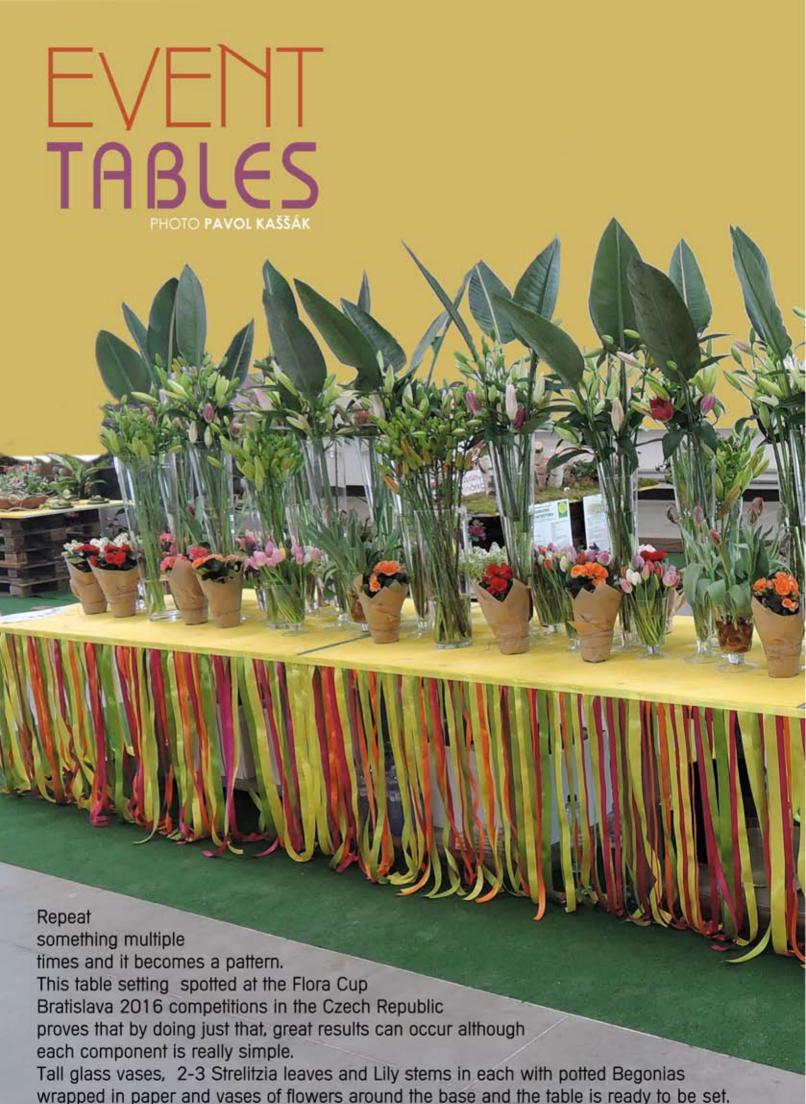
JAN'S CRITIQUE:

One thing that fairly shouts is that we don't usually include flatware (cutlery) in our designs because the silverware can disappear at flower shows. This is mentioned in the rules, but receives little emphasis, so you probably missed it. Certainly it is an amazing 'first effort', and one to be proud of. My congratulations to you--WELL DONE!!!

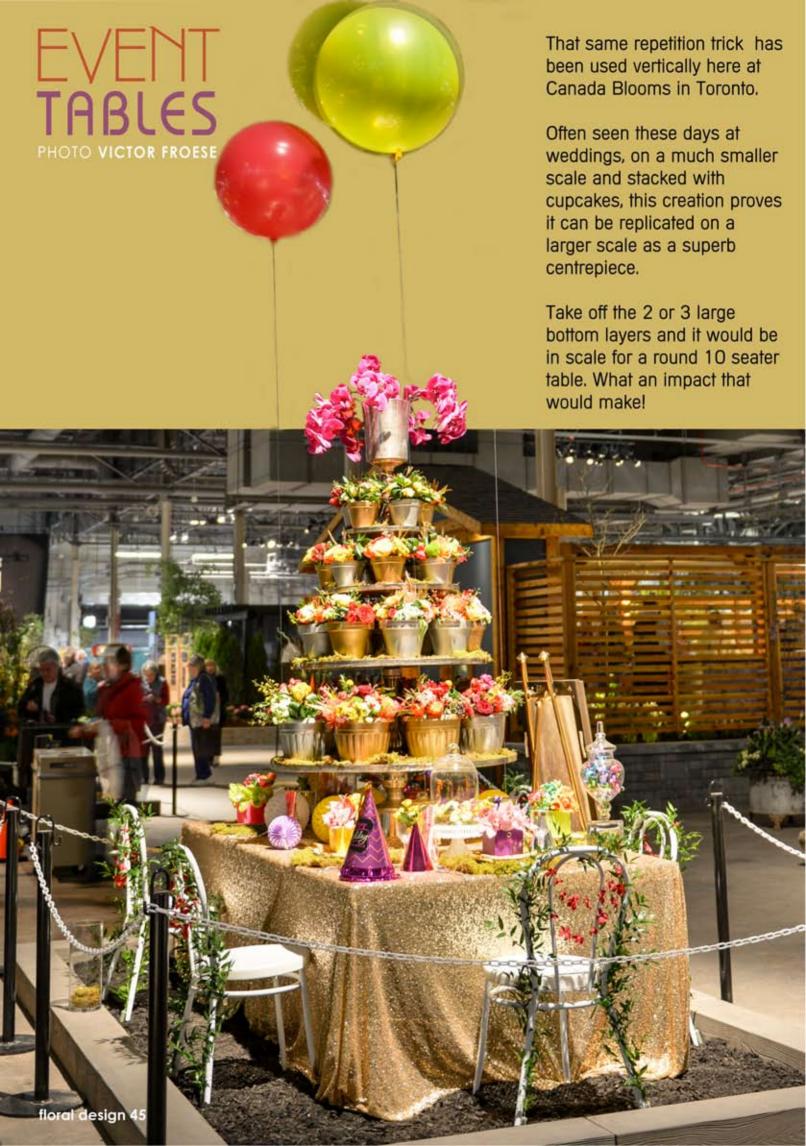
















The Flowering A Christian Easter Celebration of the Cross

PHOTOGRAPHY PAVOL KAŠŠÁK



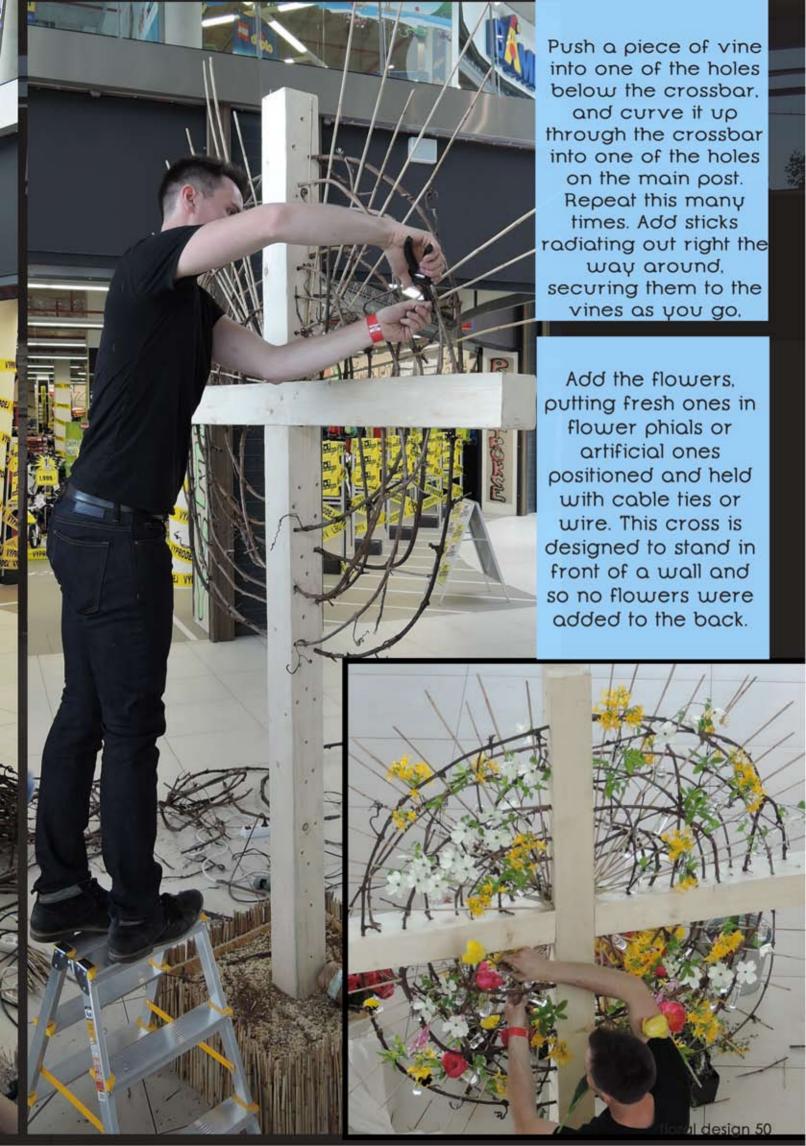
The cross, has held the place of honour as the primary symbol of the Christian faith. The flowering cross is found in Christian art as early as the sixth century. A modern expression may be found in the custom of flowering the cross on Easter morning inside or outside the church.

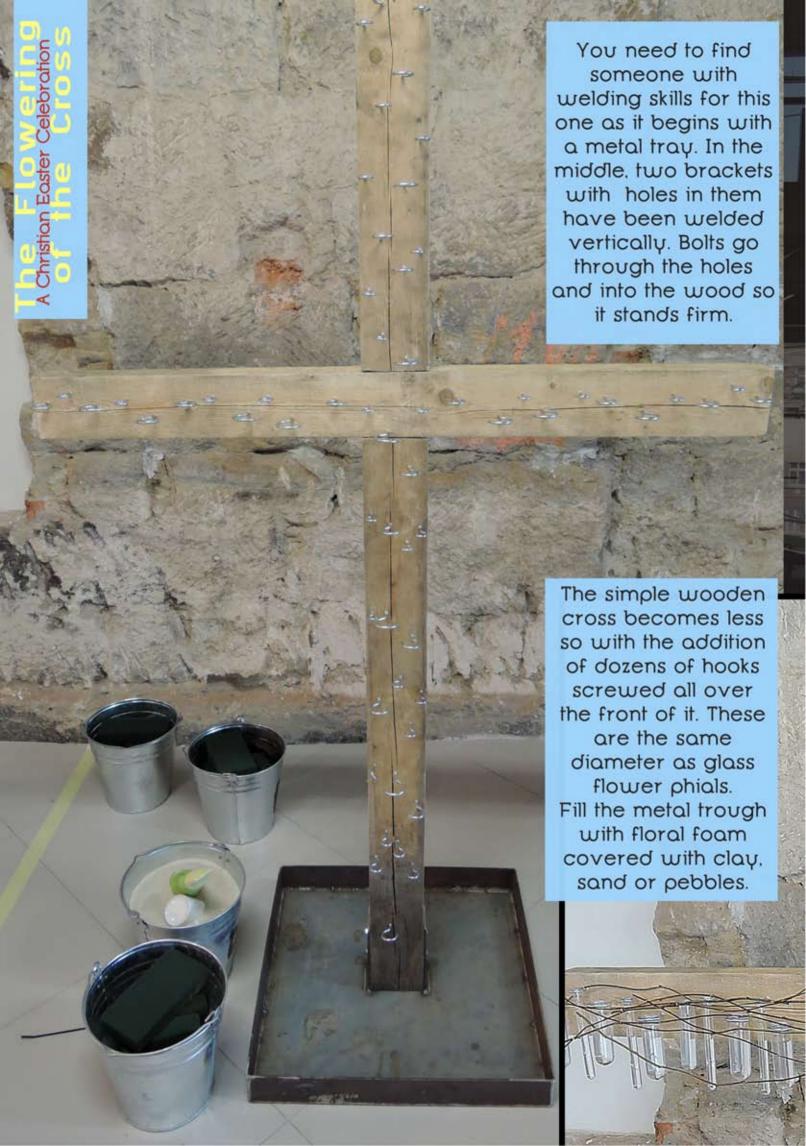
Florists at the Czech
Republic replicated
this occasion as
part of their annual
competitions The
theme was the
700th anniversary
of the birth of
Charles IV who
was a devout
Christian

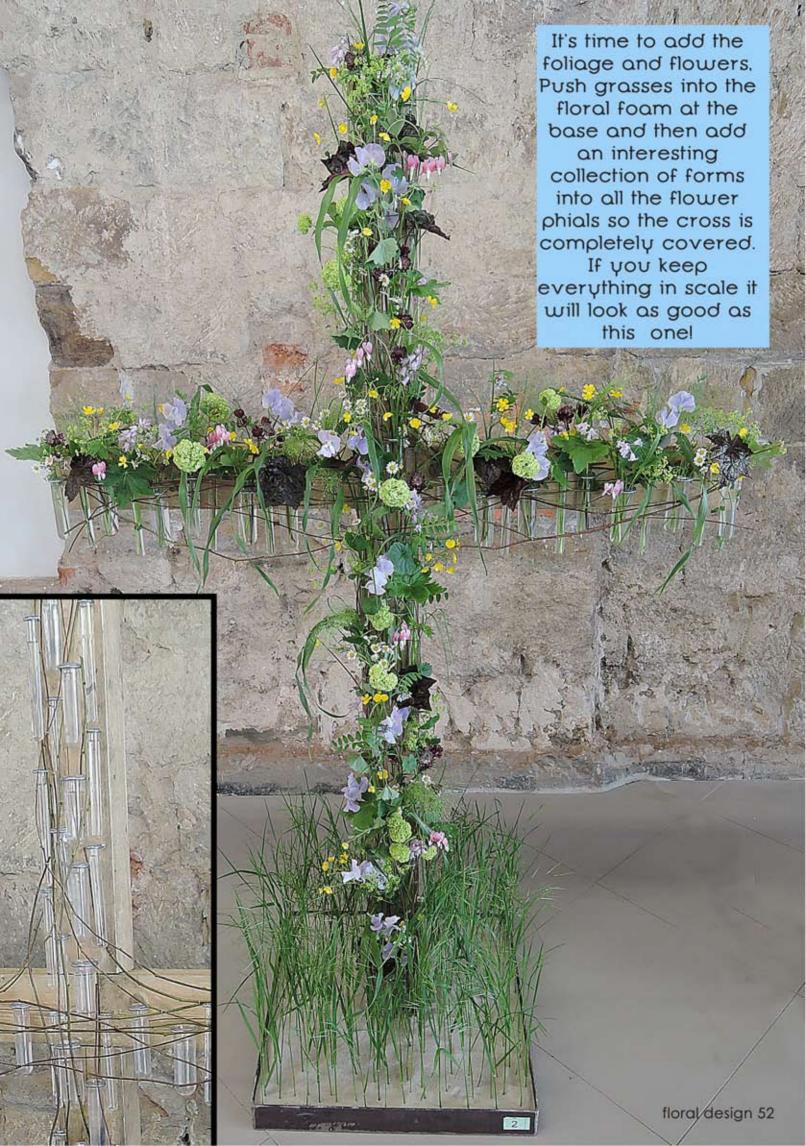
The occasion also gives you this opportunity to enjoy a modern and contemporary approach to church flowers. Almost all Christian churches feature flowers in some way in the main gathering area, the result of a dedicated team of volunteer flower arrangers who are usually working behind the scenes.

Budgets are normally low or non-existent and plastic flowers have become the norm for many. The great thing about these designs you are about to see being made, is they would look fabulous with real or fake plant material.









If you are brave enough to try this design you will be well rewarded as the basic structure will last a lifetime!

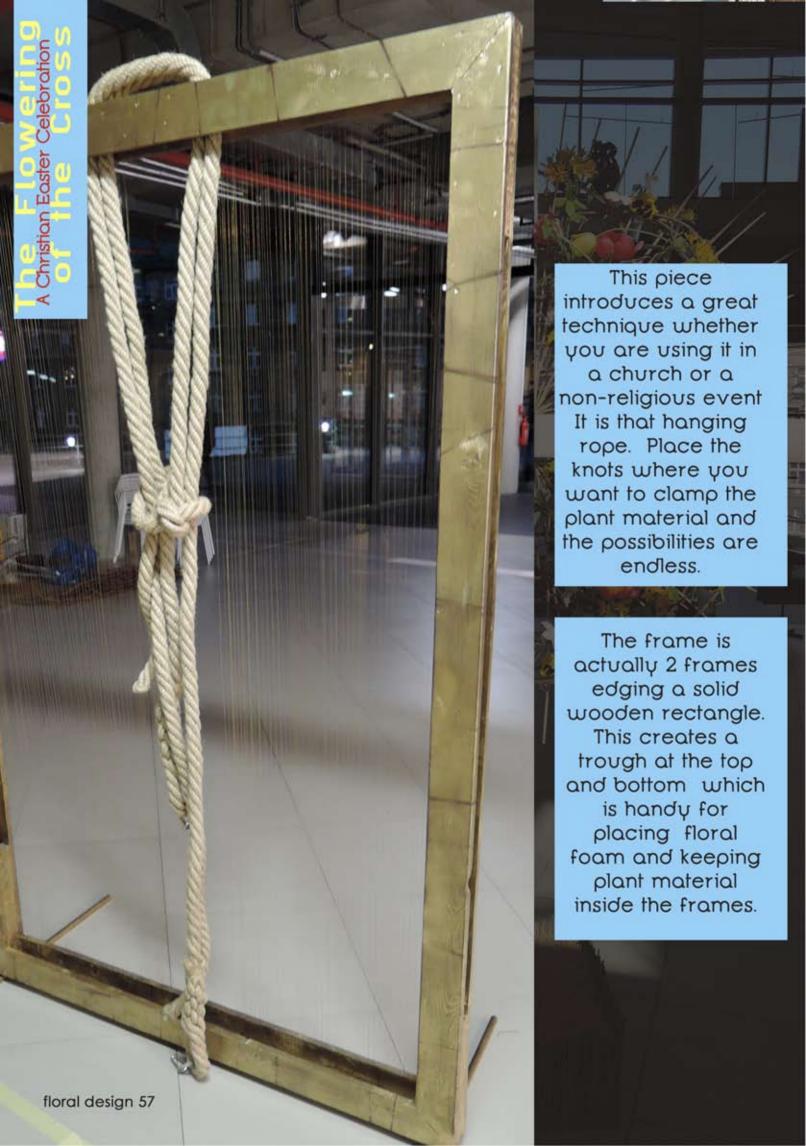
Four L shaped pieces have been made using welded squared metal sheets which were then covered with sticks laced on to the metal.

The bottom two L's have been secured into the heavy pavers, possibly with drilled holes and silicone. Thin metal supports hold the top two shapes above the base ones as well as to each other. At this stage it may still feel unstable.







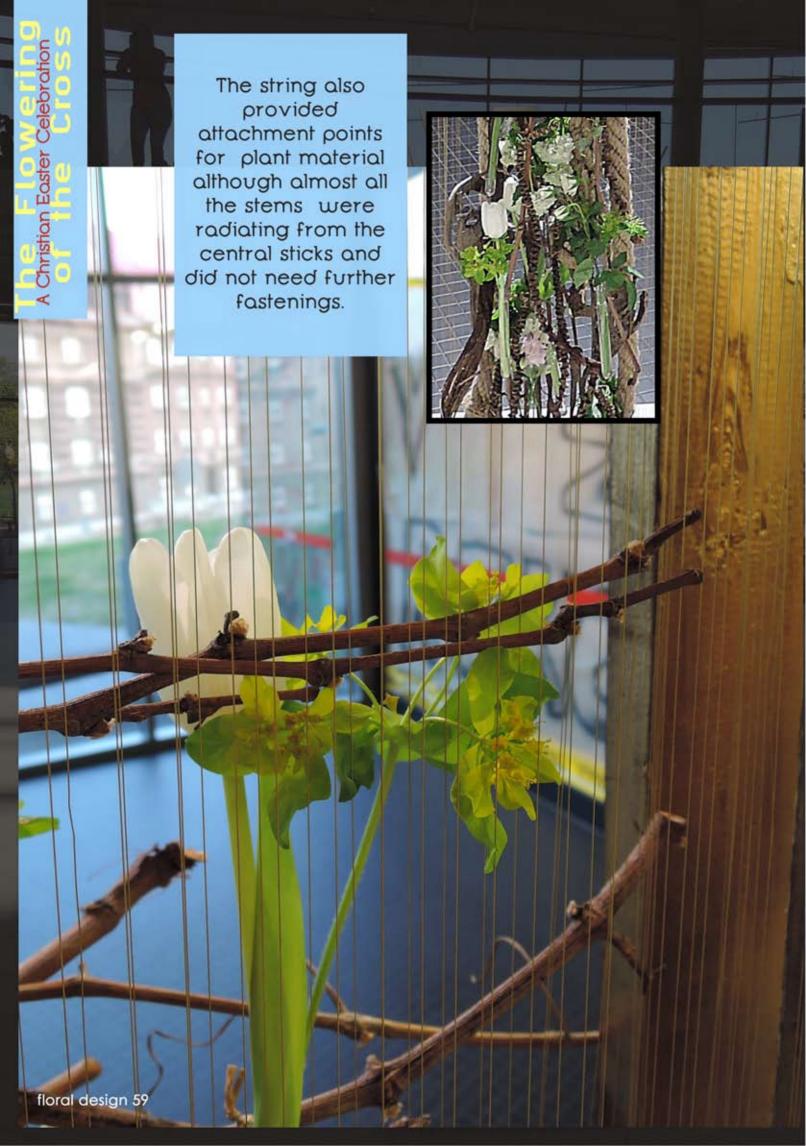








The designer also added natural string vertically right across the back frame. This technique fills the space in an interesting but non-intrusive way and helps the frame structure become more integrated.































Designers unknown, images from a chinese blog



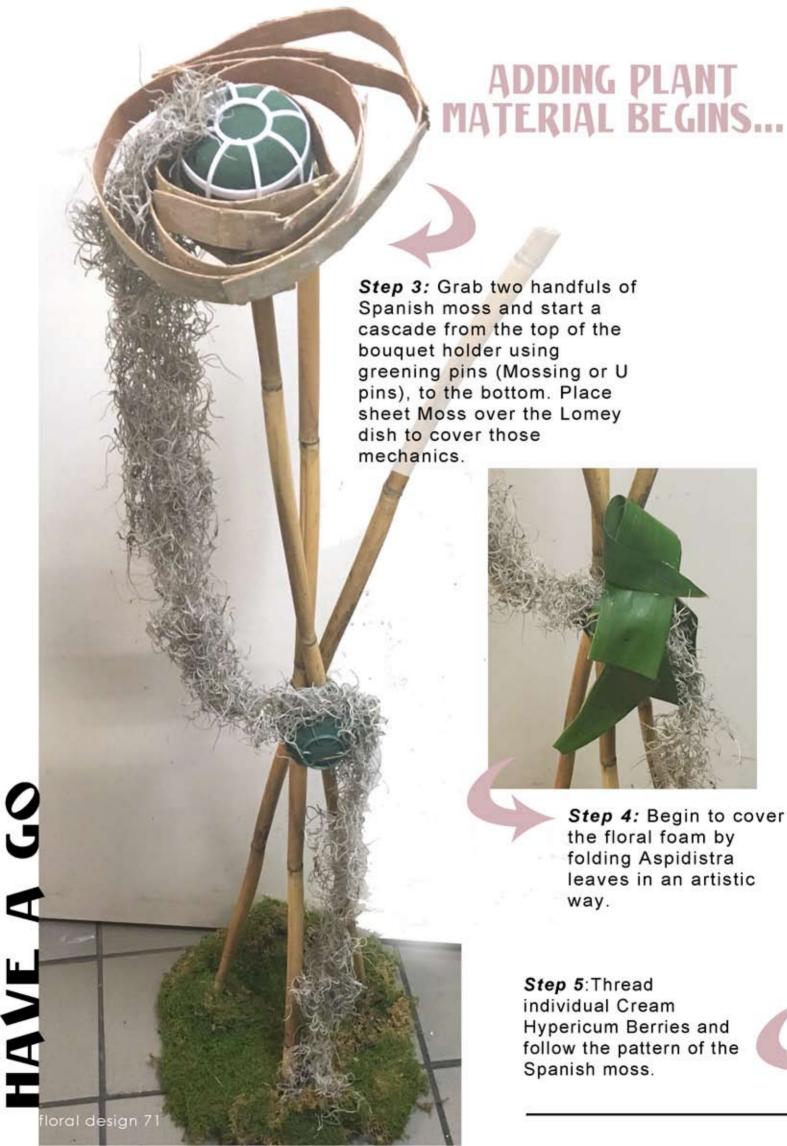
Plant Material

- 3 stems yellow Snapdragons
- 1 stem 'Green Trick' Dianthus
- 1 stem yellow Rose
- 2 Aspidistra leaves
- 3 stems orange Mokara Orchids
- 3 stems orange miniature Carnations
- 1 stem yellow Celosia
- 8 stems Craspedia
- 5 stems cream Hypericum berries

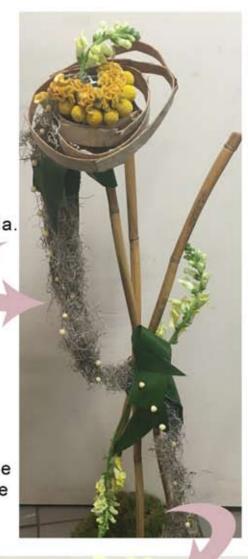
Step 1: Using a large bouquet holder, glue cut pieces of cardboard and glue onto the back of the holder. Then, cut strips of bark and glue onto the front of the holder in a circular pattern.











JACLYN GOUGH | 7 | PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES

And add the single Rose in the middle.





ALMOST THERE...

Step 7: Create a secondary line using 2 stems of orange Mokara Orchids.



Step 8:Create a focal point by clustering orange miniature Carnations together.

Step 9:Accent the arrangement by gluing 5 yellow individual Rose petals throughout the arrangement.







www.floraldesign-dvds.com/Easter.html

ORGOTO



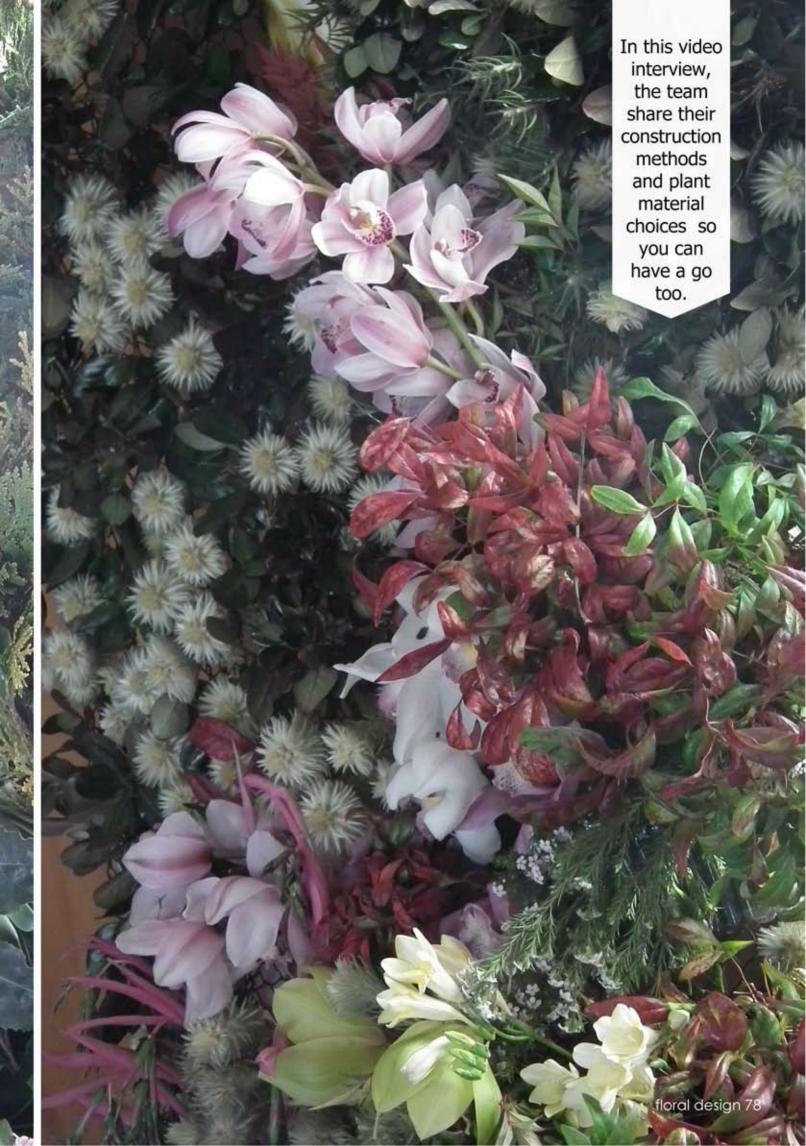




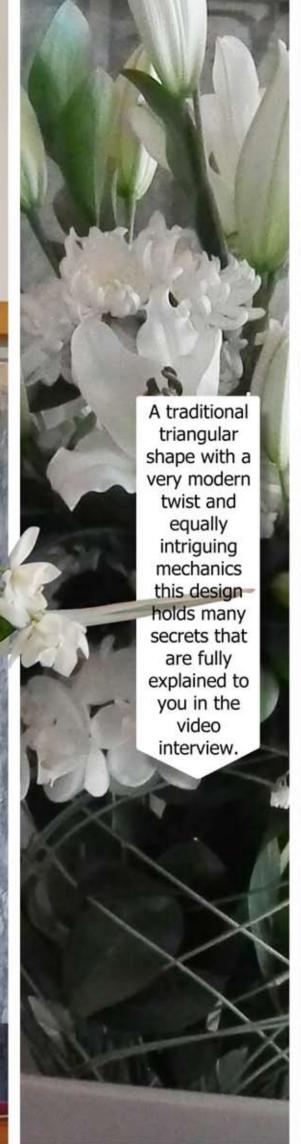
Flowers in some churches are not influenced by flower arranging norms at all, but rather contain a biblical reference in flowers for their congregations to consider.

















ELISA BELISLE





lisa@floraelements.com (USA) 262 744 1553 www.floraelements.com Chicago Illinois USA

Homecoming Dance is a popular High School event here in the USA where the female students get all dressed up in formal wear after they are asked by their cute crush to go to the dance. The scale of spending is close to that of prom. Traditionally, the guys buy a wrist corsage and the girls would purchase a boutonniere for the boy.

The floral world is in need of a much needed upgrade after years of the same ol thing. Lisa has an upgraded look to the old wrist corsage. The girls can pose for gorgeous photos with the piece then lay it down on the table or rest it on a water glass while they dance. Girls in our area are choosing their own corsages and paying up to \$75 to bling them out. Why not give them something gorgeous to parade around?

Supplies you will need:

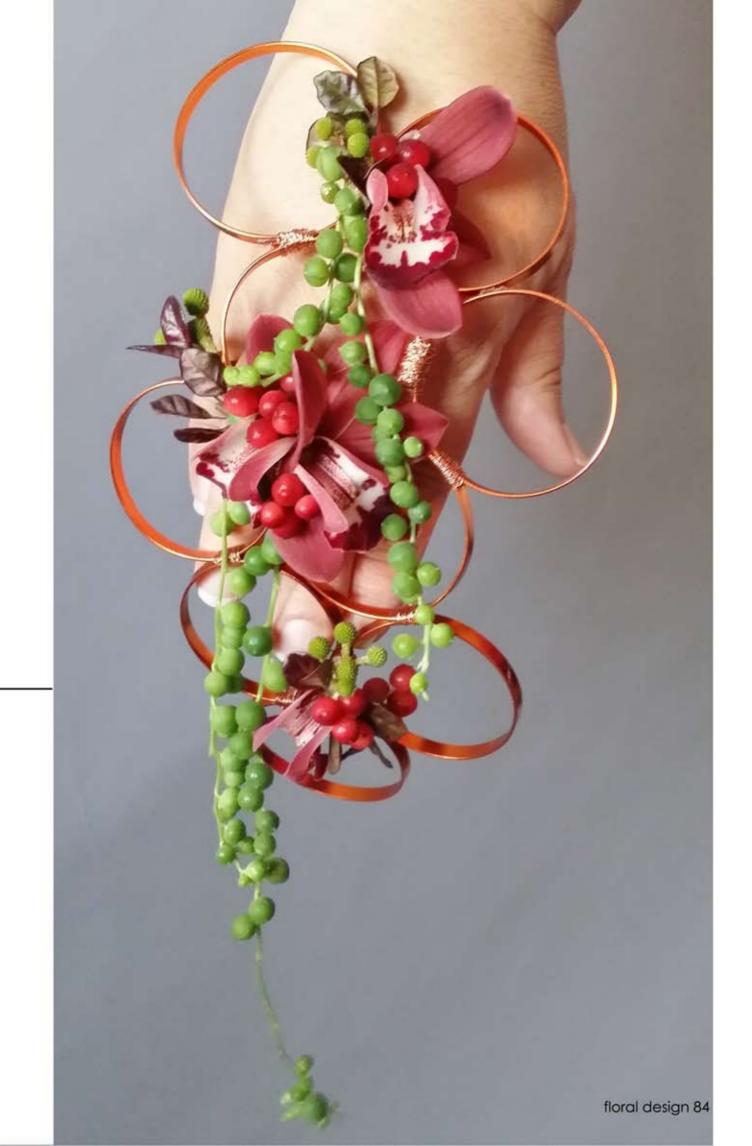
Oasis flat wire, bouillon wire, U-glue dashes and a plastic cap to make perfect circles





Step One:

Make circles with the flat wire by wrapping it tightly around a cap or pipe. Cut with a wire snips after you overlap it slightly.





Step Three: Put two circles together with the overlapping ends together as close as you can. Wrap tightly with bouillon wire that matches the flat wire. Wrap closely one direction then back and tighten wire just by twisting.

Step Four: a mock structure by placing pieces on a flat surface to see if you need any more pieces.





"The girls can pose for gorgeous photos with the piece then lay it down on the table or rest it on a water glass while they dance"



Step Five: Start "sewing" the pieces together using a tiny piece of U-Glue and boullion wire. Some pieces can just have the U-Glue holding them together only.

Step Six: After you have your pieces sewn together add shape to your piece by gently bending it to make a shield shape that accents the hand and adds movement.







Step Seven: Use the end of the bouillon wire spool to wrap the flat wire to make circles for finger rings. Adjust for smaller hands. Attach the same way as larger circles and find a sturdy joint to bind them to, use a small U-Glue dash to keep them from sliding.

Step Eight: Decorate with Oasis Cold Glue using minimal flowers and deconstructing them for a clean look. Notice how I took the mini Cymbidiums apart and constructed them to fit my structure and look?

yet 🛮 achievable 🏻 inspirational

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