

The background of the cover is a close-up photograph of a tree trunk. A thick, vertical garland of light-colored, ruffled paper flowers is draped over the trunk. Interspersed among the paper flowers are several real green hydrangea-like flowers. The text is overlaid on this image.

inspirational and achievable

floral design

magazine
November 2016

**FLORAL ART:
SAILBOATS
ON THE MED**

**THE NEW LOOKS
this wedding season**

**8 Autumn
BOUQUETS**

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COURSES**

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FROM THE EDITOR

One of the exciting floral trends that has been emerging over the last few months is the variety of flowers and foliage now being used in flower arranging. It is almost as if we have all gone back 100 years to the time when most florists arranged flowers that were grown in their own gardens. No longer does it seem that every photo of an arrangement that crosses my desk features Roses, Gerberas, Carnations or such.

This all became very evident when deciding on the bouquets to feature in this month's Autumn bouquet feature. Two flowers I had never seen before and had to call on our wonderful facebook followers to help me out with identification. I can't remember the last time that happened, not because I am an expert plant identifier, but because after 16 years as editor I thought I had seen all the cut flowers anyone ever used. So, be caught out twice in one edition was exhilarating.

Needless to say the floral design magazine garden has two new plants arriving from nurseries as the power of the internet helped me source them easily. And what were they? You will find them featured on pages 31 and 38!

Speaking of the garden, of course it is Spring on our side of the planet and what a joy it is to have the early Roses (page 43) and the late Spring bulbs all flowering. Even weeding is fun as the birds sing as we work. Spring or Autumn, it is a fabulous time of year for flower arranging!

Tricia TRICIA LEGG EDITOR



The cover is a design from the Victoria Regia competitors in Slovakia. Here they all line up for the award ceremony. Much of the work in this edition is from this event.



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FLORAL DESIGN: PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY MTL INVESTMENTS LTD ISSN 1176-9726 PUBLISHER: Mike Legg EDITOR: Tricia Legg
ALL ENQUIRIES, ADVERTISING AND SUBSCRIPTIONS 17 Hill Street, Paeroa, 3600 New Zealand | Phone +64 7 862 7966 | Fax +64 7 8627965 Email: info@floraldesignmagazine.com INTERNET: www.FloralDesignMagazine.com | www.FloralArtMail.com | www.FloralDesign-DVDs.com
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1 The first human settlement in the area is dated to the Neolithic times, about 6000 years ago. People were attracted to the site by abundance of game in the vicinity of the present village that did not cease to water.

2 The medieval spring were already present in the Middle Ages. Much later the spa attracted many aristocrats, which including Ludwig von Balthus, in 1917 these monarchs, Emperor of Germany, King of Austria-Hungary and Emperor of Bulgaria. Archduke and Emperor of Bulgaria during the reign of Emperor Franz Joseph II.

3 The Palace for 1917 built over forty thousand square meters. It was built by the architect of the same name. It was built in the style of the Art Deco and Art Deco.

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5 For the first competition on the island was "Decorum" in 1917. It was a competition in floral design. It was held in the Palace for 1917.

PHOTOGRAPHY: PAVEL ŠALDA

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SAIL AWAY

Madeleine Sarradell

Madeline Sarradell (right) pictured with her design table in a studio setting. She shows the table and design, a wall board for the design process, a glass display case, and then shows the finished table in a studio setting. Madeline has the opportunity to compete in the local competition with Lisa Lisa Calle (shown in the photo for you to view).

The theme was "Sails and what creativity to ensure the sails. They can work great. They could be used in the hands of these talented designers to complete the moment and energy of the sail."

Many of the designers were teachers or judges regarding the table they had "designed" which means they had to be creative and use a lot of imagination and creativity. It calls for only a small amount of time material but great skill in understanding the design requirements of the sail movement.

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WASP NESTS • ROSE HIPS • SUNFLOWER CENTRES • BIRCH TWIGS • CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Be different Bouquets

FOR AUTUMN

When Czech floral designers are asked to bring their autumn-themed bouquets to an open competition of arranging warm and elegant bouquets, they will bring their autumn-themed bouquets to an open competition of arranging warm and elegant bouquets.

Birch twigs are just the thing for a woodland atmosphere as they are simple and long-lasting and they are also a beautiful color. They are also a beautiful color for the autumn theme and the texture of these "wild" twigs.

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FLORAL CROWNS AND BUTTONHOLES

FOR WEDDINGS, FIRST COMMUNIONS, PROMS, BALS OF CEREMONIES

PHOTOGRAPHY: PAVEL ŠALDA

The buttonhole (left) with a ring of white roses which is a common choice for the bride. It is the wedding of the bride and groom. It is a beautiful color for the wedding and the texture of these "wild" twigs.

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5 STYLES FOR BIG OCCASIONS

LEARN THE TECHNIQUES AND ADAPT TO YOUR BUDGET

Tamás Mezöffy EUROPEAN CHAMPION FLORIST FROM HUNGARY

Each of the five styles he introduced are for the big budget clients when a single piece has to be large enough to be impressive and different enough to justify the cost.

They would equally as fabulous on a smaller scale for corporate, event, or media work. So let's take a closer look.

ADAPT TO YOUR BUDGET

Tamás Mezöffy from Hungary, is the 2016 winner of the Europe Cup held in Geneva. Often these top florists produce demonstrations that are fabulous to watch but you do wonder how relevant the tips and techniques are to your circumstances. The secret is to adapt the ideas to the budget you have available.

CHANGE THE SCALE

THE TOP

5

FASCINATING
FACTS
FROM
Piešťany
SLOVAKIA



1

The first human settlement in the area is dated to the prehistoric times, about 80,000 years ago. People were attracted to the site by abundance of game in the vicinity of the thermal springs that did not freeze in winter.

A small female statue called Venus of Moravany was found in the nearby village Moravany nad Váhom. It is made of mammoth ivory and is dated to 22,800 BC.



2

The medicinal springs were already popular in the Middle Ages.

Much later the spa attracted many aristocratic visitors, including Ludwig van Beethoven. In 1917, three monarchs (Wilhelm II of Germany, Karl I of Austria-Hungary, and Ferdinand I of Bulgaria) orchestrated their war strategy during the negotiations in the Thermia Palace hotel.

DECORATIONS FOR A LARGE ROOM



The Piešťany spa treats over forty thousand patients a year. More than 60% of the clients are foreigners. It specializes in treatment of chronic rheumatic and arthritic diseases and post-accident lesions of joints and bones.

The sulfate-carbonate water is used in pools and tubs. Sulfurous thermal mud pools are also used for treatment.



Victoria Regia the 23rd international competition in flower arranging and the Slovak floristry championship took place in Piešťany.

This year was the competition theme 'On angelic wings' and big angelic wings welcomed you in front of the building

PHOTOGRAPHY PAVOL KAŠŠÁK



For the senior competitors one of the tasks was 'Decoration in space, a spatial composition in the interior.'

They had to make a suitably sized floral decoration for Kursalon, one of the historic buildings in the area. These were created in situ in the banquet hall.



DECORATIONS FOR A LARGE ROOM

FRENCH++



The classic French shape gets a makeover from this talented competitor. He started with floral foam forming a column. It was measured to take $\frac{2}{3}$ of the height of the finished piece (minus the sticks) while the container added $\frac{1}{3}$. This is a common ratio that works!

The difference this time though is those sticks! Adding them above the floral column combined with vines cascading vertically has given the piece great energy and movement.

Take a close look at the plant selection too, all the fabulous forms and contrasts within a very limited range of colour is what makes this style so appealing.





DECORATIONS FOR A LARGE ROOM

FOLIAGE + 2



It was quite a thrill to see Japanese Anemone flowers in this arrangement as finally I have a use for what have become hugely invasive plants that seem impossible to eradicate in the floral design magazine garden. The flowers have justified their persistent existence!

The dainty mantle they bring to the top of the design is the perfect foil for the lush green foliage beneath.

As so many stems will be fighting for space in large blocks of floral foam, if you replicate this arrangement, wrap the blocks in wire netting first as it will stop them crumbling.





DECORATIONS FOR A LARGE ROOM

SOFT HAZE



When you want the soft, ethereal look in an arrangement there are a few tricks that will help you achieve the result you want more easily.

One is to use lots of *Asparagus plumosus*, also known as *Asparagopsis setacea*. This delicate fern provides a soft contrast. It's available (at Convent Garden in the UK) in a range of colours including white, gold and brown. Some have a touch of glitter too although it's natural colour is green!

Add bolder white forms as contrast and an upturned glass vase as the base and you have the same effect.





DECORATIONS FOR A LARGE ROOM

FEATHERS

4



Klára Franc Vavříková, Czech Champion and overall winner of this competition, is always innovative and so seeing a new way to use feathers was no surprise.

The leaves were taken off the branches and replaced by feathers and these then soared above her piece. More feathers concealed the rim of the container and floated diagonally at the base.

They all created a perfect 'nest' for the twigs and green and white plant material to burst out from the concealed floral foam and shoot upwards in a glorious vegetative style.





LAMBS EAR



Garlands of rolled Lamb's Ear (*Stachys byzantina*) are seldom seen as those little leaves rolled and strung are time consuming to make. Matched with the grey container the effect is fabulous and well worth the effort.

The construction of this design is so simple! Lots of interesting lichen covered sticks go into the pot, a dish of floral foam on top is hidden amongst layers of Airplant, Hydrangea, Hops and Roses and then be super generous with metres of the garlands.





DECORATIONS FOR A LARGE ROOM

SEED PODS



Clematis seed pods have obviously taken the European markets by storm as they have been popping up often in the last few months.

They come still attached to their stalks and give a wonderfully soft and fluffy look to any arrangement. This designer kept all the other plant material just as light and the whole design had lots of space between all the elements.

So a traditional triangular style has been modernized with a vegetative technique so the piece takes on the mantle of a roadside uncut verge. And don't you love the pods glued on to the container, what a great texture!





SAIL
AWAY



Madeleine Sarradell

Madeleine Sarradell (on right pictured with her design) takes you on another journey, this time into Italy and Imperia. It is well known for the flowers grown in glasshouses there, and their olives. Another popular activity is floral art and Madeleine took the opportunity to compete in the local competition while Gilles Vial-Caille recorded the entries for you to enjoy.



The theme was yachts and what creativity they used to emulate the sails. They used steel, paper, Flax, wood or straw, which in the hands of these talented designers recreated the movement and energy of the wind.

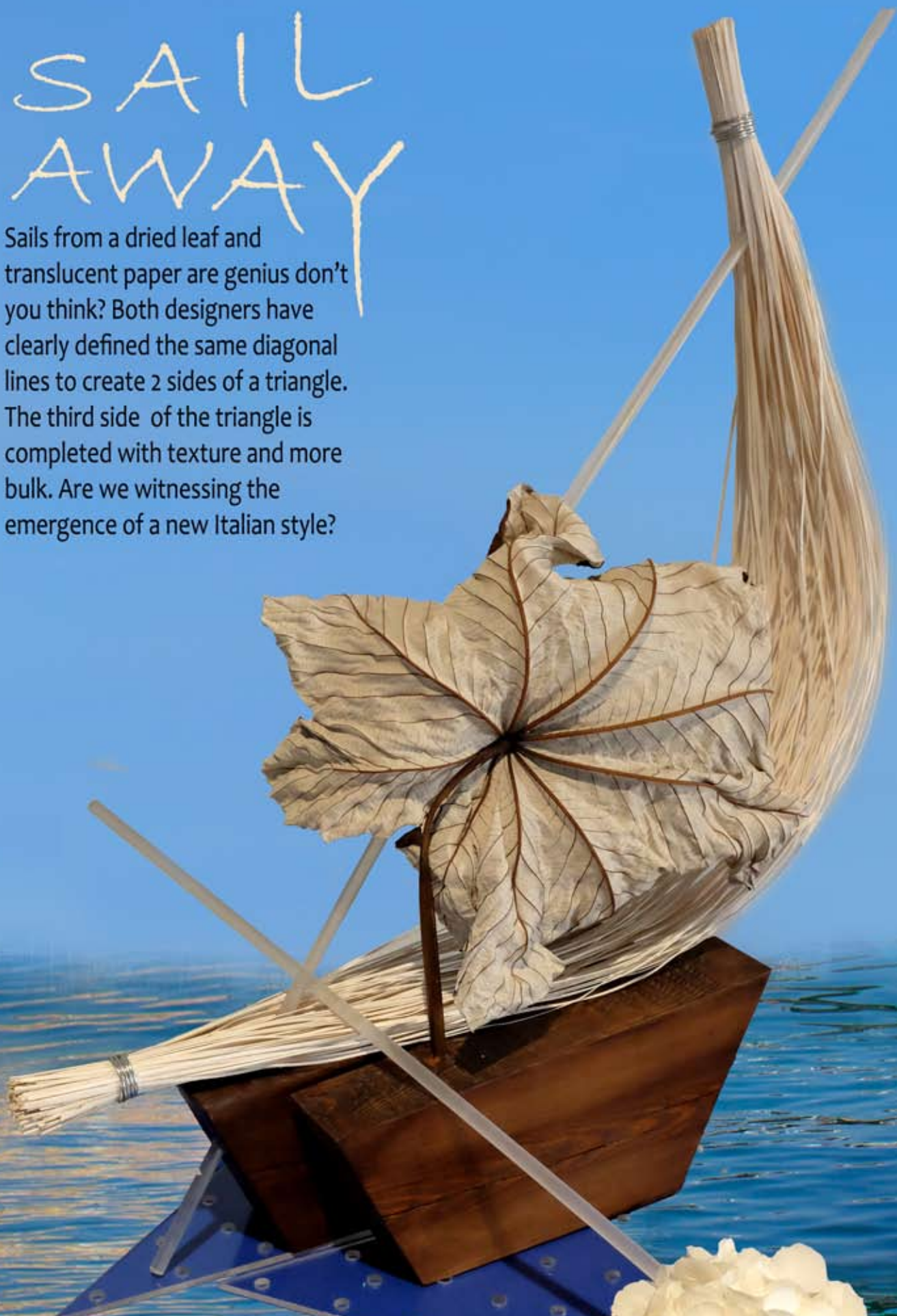
Many of the designers were teachers or judges exploring the style they call 'nouveau' which means new. Minimalist and uncluttered, it calls for only a small amount of plant material but great skill in understanding the design requirements of line and movement.



photo : Davide Ghirardo

SAIL AWAY

Sails from a dried leaf and translucent paper are genius don't you think? Both designers have clearly defined the same diagonal lines to create 2 sides of a triangle. The third side of the triangle is completed with texture and more bulk. Are we witnessing the emergence of a new Italian style?



Anna Maria I

1° PREMIO



Carla Giammetti

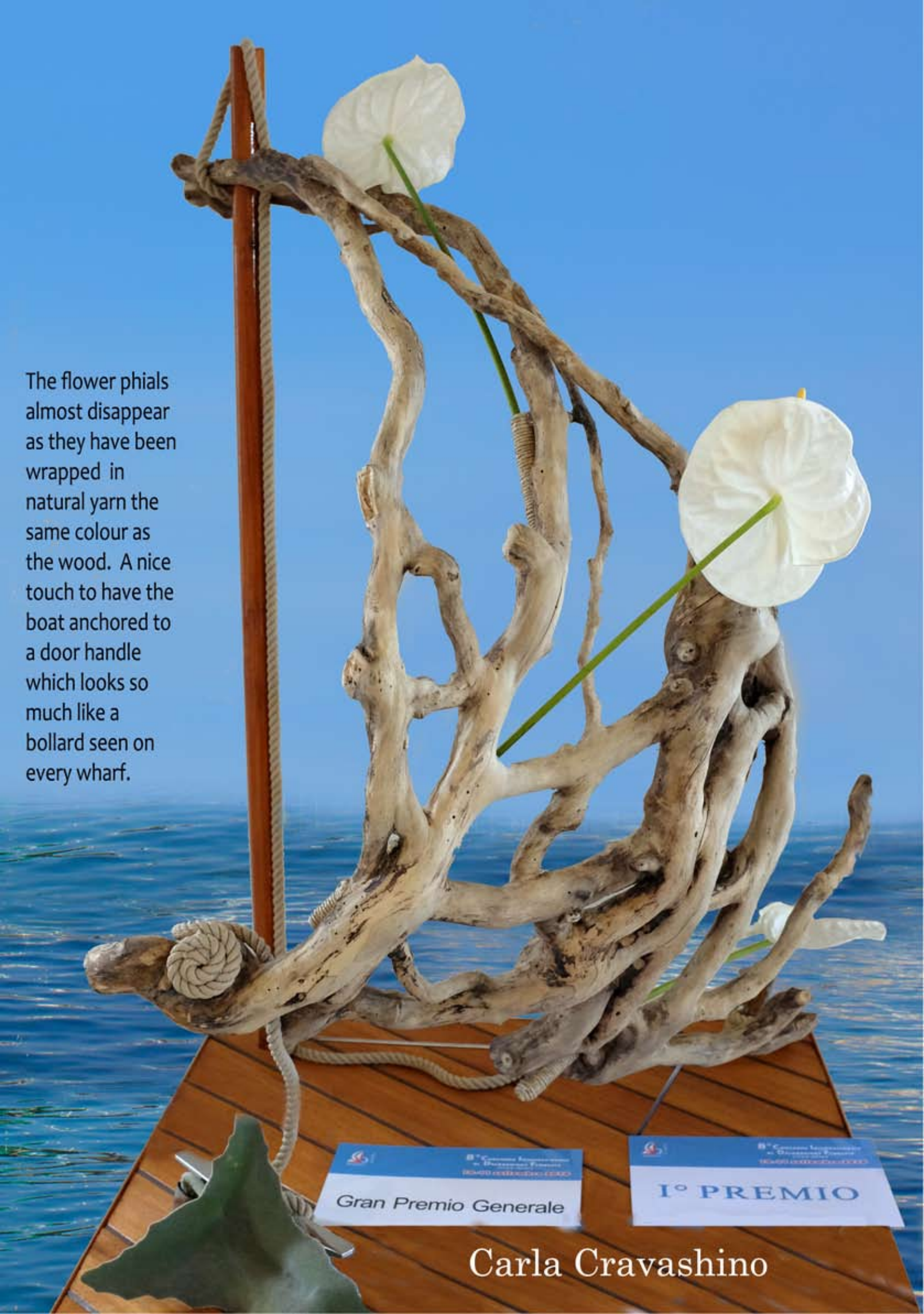
SAIL AWAY

New Zealand Flax, passed through a pasta machine and then dried and bleached makes the sails. With the dried Hydrangeas this is an everlasting design perfect for any yachtie's celebration.



Franca Di Paoli Siri

The flower phials almost disappear as they have been wrapped in natural yarn the same colour as the wood. A nice touch to have the boat anchored to a door handle which looks so much like a bollard seen on every wharf.



Gran Premio Generale

1° PREMIO

Carla Cravashino



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Chicago Illinois
USA

As summer blends into fall, it is a time to bask in the contrast of colours and be inspired by nature's paint palette.

Sometimes we need a pop of colour to make a statement. Let's take a moment to focus on contrasting colours. The easiest way to spot contrasting colours is by using a colour wheel and looking at the colour opposite of the one you are wishing to contrast. Soon you will find yourself with a collection of contrasting pairs—blue and orange, green and red, yellow and purple. This season, see how you can play with this concept. Choose a statement that is important to you and pick a pair of colours that pops out at you. You may find yourself delighted in the contrasting blend of colours that you possibly had never thought of pairing together before.

I have found that contrast can appear in much more than just colour. The piece that I made this month was for a Kelly Wearstler Showroom in Chicago where the lecture focused on a neutral palette.

A QUICK COLOUR THEORY UPDATE:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NUWEbj9rII4&t=63s>

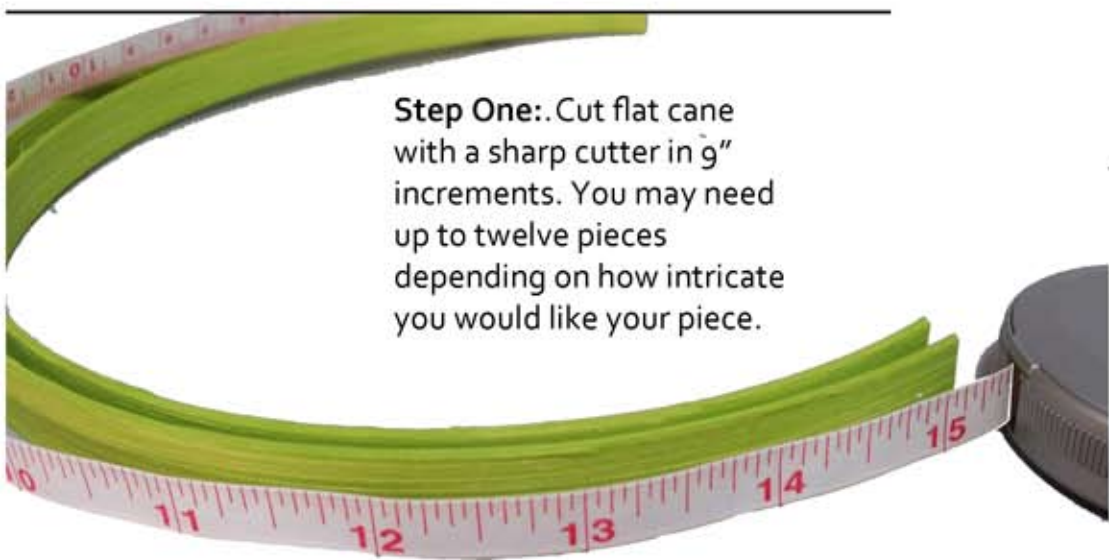


You may be wondering how the concept of contrast could possibly be applied when you only have neutral colours to work with. If you look at the showroom, you will see lots of smooth corners and rounded pieces; however, if you take another look, you will see the angular opposition to break the smooth with squares. Blending the round with sharp angular motions brings a modern flair but easy movements for the eyes.

“In the following, I would like to guide you through a design where we will apply contrast in both colour and shape.”

Supplies needed:

- Flat cane
- U-Glue dots
- Coloured wool
- Matching container
- Floral foam
- Contrasting florals



Step One: Cut flat cane with a sharp cutter in 9" increments. You may need up to twelve pieces depending on how intricate you would like your piece.

Step Two: Hold the two ends together and place a U-Glue dash to hold them together. Very gently press down on the corners to partially crack the flat cane and create a dramatic angle.



Step Three: Place another U-Glue dash on the end and wrap with a wool that matches the container.





Step Four. Place floral foam in your container.



Step Five: Wrap the wire of the wood pick in the corner and pierce through the arrangement floral to hide the mechanics. You can alternate wool-side-out versus wool-side-in to create more of a pattern.



Step Six: Make a rounded arrangement with two colours—one that matches the container and one that contrasts. Play with the shapes and angles to create your own unique piece.



COLOUR LIKE A

Notice how the colour's vibrancy changes depending on the background.



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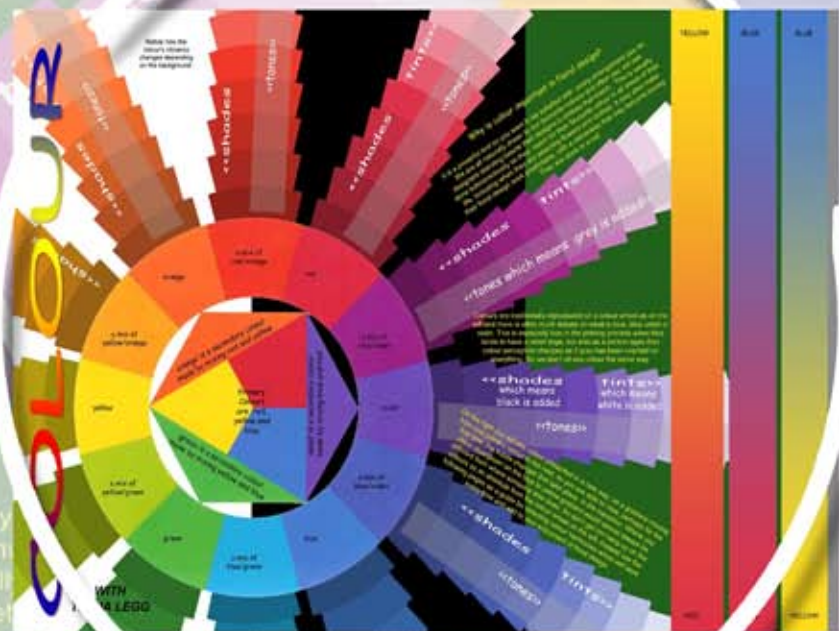


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WITH
TRICIA LEGG

YOUR WORLD AN EXPERT

wall chart
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ine magazine
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video
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YELLOW

Be different Bouquets

PHOTOGRAPHY PAVOL KAŠŠÁK

FOR AUTUMN



When Slovak floral designers are invited to bring their Autumn themed bouquets to an open competition all manner of interesting elements appear amongst the flowers.

Birch twigs are just the thing for a wrapped armature as they are long, spindly and flexible when fresh. They are also a fabulous dark foil for the brighter flowers and the texture of those wasp's nests!

RES . BIRCH TWIGS . CHRYSANTHEMUMS



TEAZELS . POPPY SEED PODS . CONIFER . KALAMINT



These bouquets, although both posy shaped are a great homage to contrast and texture. They also reiterate the trend that anything goes in bouquets at the moment and the more interesting and varied you make the plant material in it, the more modern brides will love it.

And a flower we don't see often? *Astantia Major* which is a perennial common in Europe and is excellent as a cut flower!

CUT FLOWER FOCUS

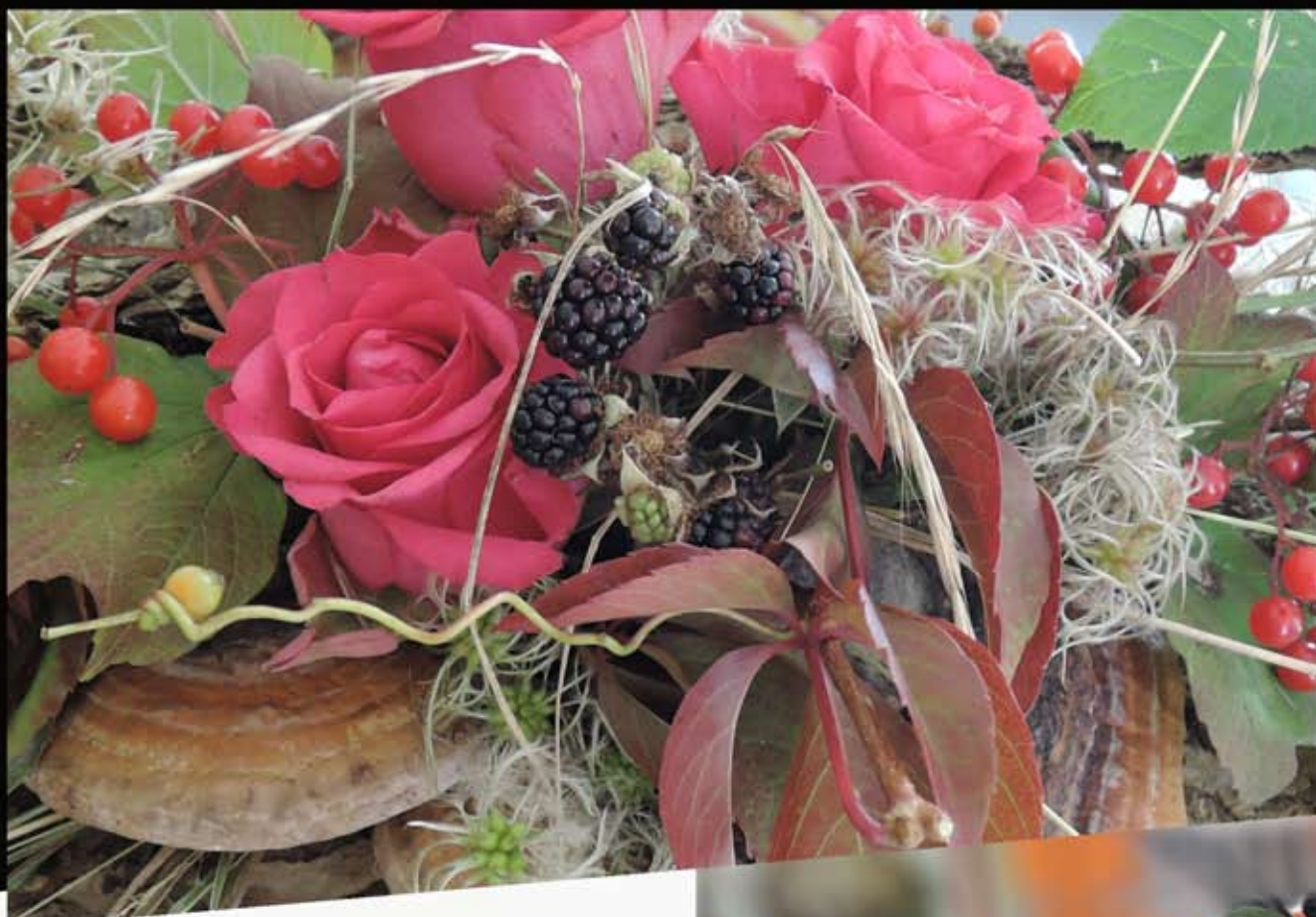
ROSES . ORNITHOGALUMS . ZINNIA . WIL

be different
Bouquets

ANCHOE . CHRYSANTHEMUMS . SPONGES



WILD GRASSES . OLIVE TWIGS . ASTANTIA MAJOR



Drilling a hole in an interesting piece of bark (for the stems to go through) is a wonderful way to create either this bouquet or a table arrangement if you put the stems into a vase once the design is complete. With the fresh blackberries your guests can even eat bits off it! The piece is photographed against a mirror, another great idea if you have a mantelpiece to decorate as your plant material goes twice as far! Position the foliage along the bark to integrate it fully.



BERRIES . SEED HEADS . FRESH FOLIAGE

be different
Bouquets



DOUBLE DUTY



Every little girl would love this bouquet or side table arrangement and the only part of it that would spoil are the berries . Using wool wrapped thick wire shaped as a tripod to make it self supporting, the sticks were threaded through to add more stability and to create the grove for the fairies to sit.

Seed heads have been glued to the sticks as well as berries and lichen.

Can you imagine this as a gift for a child in hospital? What a special treat and memory!

. STICKS . SEED HEADS . LICHEN

be different
Bouquets



CHILD'S PLAY



The finest of grasses such as Panicum transform a bouquet as they grab space from around the edges of the bouquet and incorporate it into the design. Immediately the whole piece seems lighter, airier and more delicate.

This really works when you have chosen visually heavier plant materials such as Banksia.

GRASSES



Lysimachia clethroides, common name is gooseneck loosestrife.
CLICK HERE for more or go to perennials.com/plants/lysimachia-clethroides.html



be different
Bouquets

Autumn leaves are tempting to use in any arrangement but it is always disappointing when they lose their colour or curl and become brittle. An old fashioned way of dealing with this is to glycerine the leaves. It works wonderfully and the leaves remain pliable and soft.

GLYCERINE

Put 50% water and 50% glycerine in a jar, add the stems of the leaves and leave for 2 months in a dark place. Done!



HYDRANGEA . ZINNIA . ASTILBE . ROSE



UNITY

Be different
Bouquets

Keeping all the main forms the same, in this case round and roughly the same size, makes a bouquet that is very formal and uniform. By using a red/green aged Hydrangea with the red Zinnias, rose hips and berries it also gives great unity to the piece.

However, look closely inside the Zinnia and there is a touch of gold. The designer has matched this with the tips of the golden Astilbe and immediately the whole bouquet has been lifted to become brighter.



ROSES

THE GIFT OF LOVE

with 6 trendy
techniques

for wrapping,
in vases,
sideboards
and table settings

YOUR MONTHLY OPTIONAL COMPANION VIDEO





“

**ADAPT TO YOUR
B U D G E T**

”

Tamás Mezőffy from Hungary, is the 2016 winner of the Europa Cup held in Genoa. Often these top florists produce demonstrations that are fabulous to watch but you do wonder how relevant the tips and techniques are to your circumstances. The secret is to adapt the ideas to the budget you have available.

Tamás

EUROPEAN CHAMPION FLORIST
FROM HUNGARY

Mezőffy

LEARN THE TECHNIQUES
AND ADAPT THE STYLES

5 STYLES FOR BIG OCCASIONS

Each of the five styles he introduced are for the big budget clients when a single piece has to be large enough to be impressive and different enough to justify the cost.

They would be equally as fabulous on a smaller scale for corporate, event, or media work. So let's take a closer look.

“

**CHANGE THE
SCALE**

”



TM European Champion 2016





Tamás Mezőffy has the ability to make a simple structure look really complicated to make but it isn't as all you need are 2 dishes that have the same diameter at the rim. If they both have pedestals, take it off one. Round off a large block of wet floral foam and place the second dish upside down on top. Secure it with skewers.

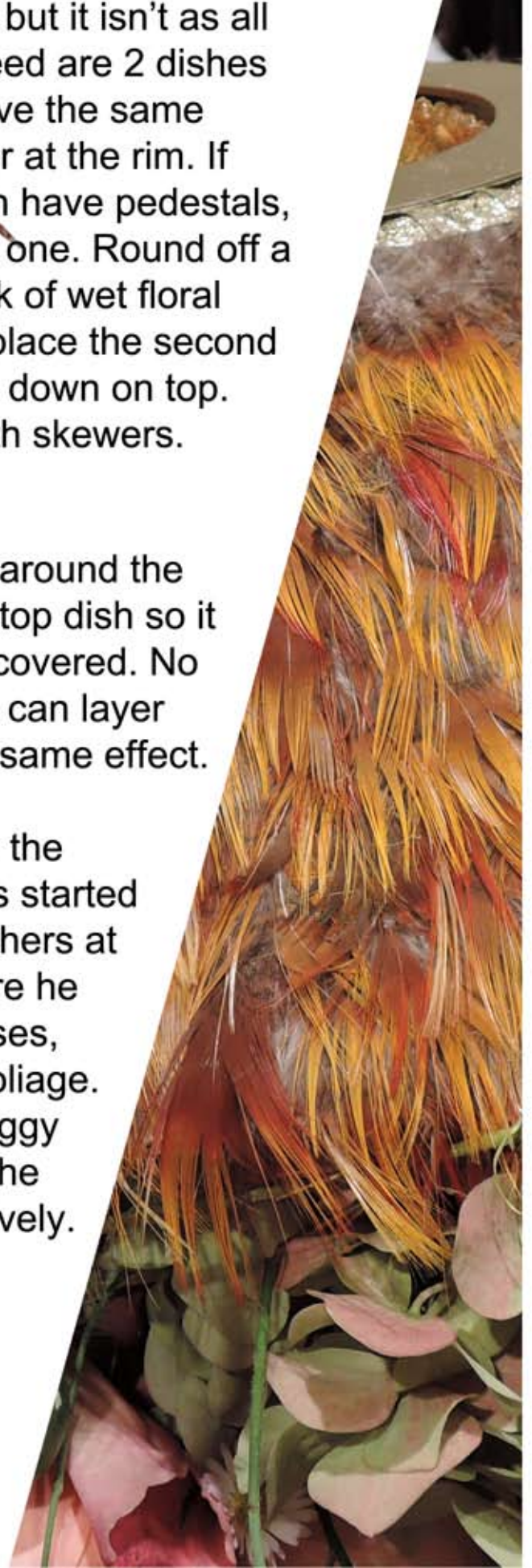
Glue feathers around the outside of the top dish so it is completely covered. No feathers? You can layer leaves for the same effect.

And then fill in the middle. Tamás started with more feathers at the base before he added the Roses, Orchids and foliage. Finish with twiggy bits to make the design more lively.

“

**IT IS EASIER
THAN IT LOOKS**

”



TM

European Champion 2016



“

**DINING TABLE
CENTREPIECE**

”

One of the functions of supreme award winning florists such as Tamás Mezőffy is to push the boundaries. In this case he was experimenting with proportion with the larger mass of the design at the top. By using enclosed spaces though, it has kept that part visually light and airy counteracting the solidity of the bottom.

An upturned vase or glass cake stand is all you need to get started. Stack up the dry floral foam into a column

and glue it to the glass stand. Glue on the Chinese Lanterns (*Physalis alkekengi*). Wet the top section of the floral foam for one white *Hydrangea* and *Gloriosa*.

Self made netting secured in the top provides spikes to glue on the *Sandersonia* and *Craspedia*. A garland of Carnation petals completes the look.





“

TRY THIS IF YOU
ARE AN EXPERT

”

Build a netting circle and attach it around the rim of a shallow dish. Holes drilled into the dish will do it. Glue Emu or Ostrich feathers over the netting's edge. Thread the flower stems through the netting.



When all the flowers have fully covered the netting, place the stems in a water filled tall urn. Add stems of Gloriosa for a little height. Pour water into the dish and float a single Rose petal to finish with flourish.



“

**THE ARMATURE
IS VERSATILE**

”




Tamás used the same armature and technique for this, his Europa Cup bouquet entry, using Roses and Tillandsia. By placing shorter stems in a shallow bowl the effect is quite different.



Using all the same large round shapes gives this second version more of a collar effect and is less dainty, which is a great reminder that choosing the form and variety of the flowers can completely alter the final effect.



floral design 55



A classic vegetative design, meaning positioned as they would grow, Tamás added some rule breaking touches with apples holding in place the key stems that made the frame. He also added a string of Sage leaves so the smell was as sensational as the visual appeal.

“

**BREAK THE
RULES**

”



“
LOOK OUTSIDE
THE SQUARE
”



Adding garland trails that aren't plant material can maximise the effect of a bouquet especially if it also moves to the rhythm of the bride. These trails could be from paper, shell, plastic or pearls just as some starter ideas for the possibilities. Tamas began the top with huge white Hydrangeas, added the cascade of Phalaenopsis Orchids and then decorated the head with Orchids, Gloriosa and Kniphofia.



JACLYN GOUGH

OWINGS
MILL
MARYLAND
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Flowers and Fancies
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**WORDS & PHOTOGRAPHY
JACLYN GOUGH**

Step 1: Float the floral foam in flower food treated water until it sinks and place into birch container. Then, fill container with water.

HAVE A GO



Plant Material

- 3 purple standard Carnations
- 3 yellow Craspedia
- 3 purple Liatris
- ½ stem yellow Waxflower
- 1 stem Sea Holly (Eryngium maritimum)
- 1½ stems green Hypericum berries
- 5 miniature Sunflowers

Hard Goods

- 1 5" Birch container with liner
- 2/3 block floral foam
- 10 greening pins
- Floral adhesive
- Green bind wire,
- Apple green flat cane
- Black boutonniere pins
- Gold beaded wire
- Wire cutters
- Floral knife



Step 2: Peel the yellow petals off the Sunflowers and set them aside.



Step 3: Using greening pins (aka mossing pins, U pins) with 2 for each Sunflower turn each Sunflower upside down and secure on top of the floral foam allowing the stems to fall up to the sides.



ADDING PLANT MATERIAL BEGINS...



Step 4: Insert 3 stems of Craspedia into the floral foam

Step 5: Clean stems of Liatris (as shown) for a more tailored appearance and insert in the middle of the floral foam in between the Craspedia.



Step 6: Bring each Sunflower stem up one by one and secure to the Liatris and one another with green bind wire.



HAVE A GO

Step 7: Insert each lateral of Sea Holly in between each Sunflower close to the edge of the container.



Step 8: Massage Carnation stems with your hands to make them more flexible, then insert them into the floral foam and create a nice movement by securing them to the Sunflower stems with bind wire.



Step 9: Insert yellow Waxflower in the middle of the arrangement. Then, using left over Craspedia stems, cut in 1.5" pieces then insert a black boutonniere pin and pierce into Sunflower stems throughout for interest.



Step 10 Insert flat cane into the floral foam and twist throughout the arrangement to create rhythm to repeat the movement of the Carnations.



Glue Hypericum berries using floral adhesive to hide the greening pins. Then, wrap gold beaded wire around the Birch container for an embellishment.



FLORAL CROWNS

FOR WEDDINGS, FIRST COMMUNIONS,



FLORAL CROWNS ARE SO 'IN' right now it is well worth your time learning how to make them. If you have never tried the technique, start with a bought headband and decorate that first. This one has been made from scratch (by an expert Slavik florist) with flexible aluminium wire but it can just as easily be made by winding the wire around a commercial product.



AND BUTTONHOLES

PROMS, BALLS OR CEREMONIES

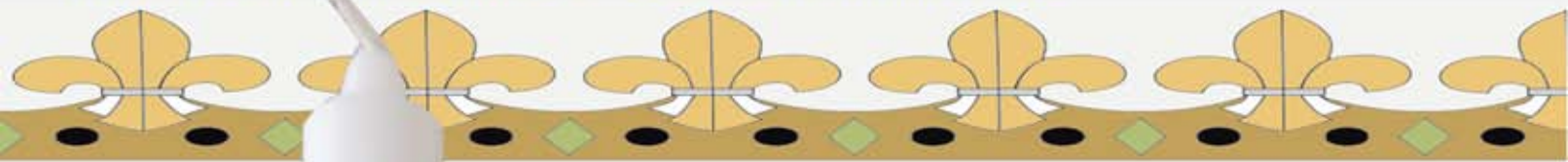
PHOTOGRAPHY PAVOL KAŠŠÁK

The buttonhole starts with a ring of wire into which fabric covered cardboard has been placed in the middle. It is the wrapping of the various gauges of wire that makes it so effective, and of course the glued floral composition in the middle.

Candles are also carried in some Christian ceremonies such as a first communion and this one is decorated with a wool covered ring of cardboard. This provided the platform for the plant material, wire and ribbon.



FLORAL CROWNS AND BUTTONHOLES FROM THE SENIOR COMPETITIONS

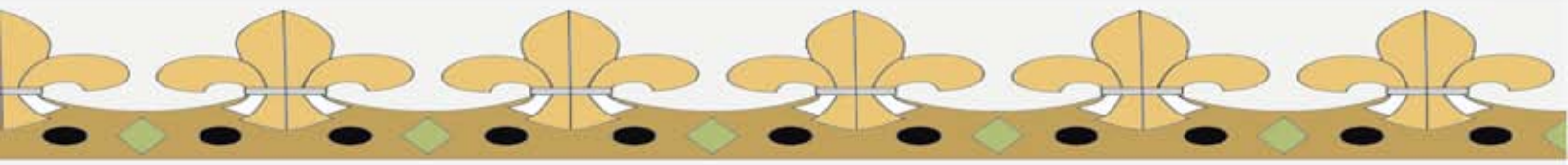


The wirework in this stunning headband, buttonhole and candle set reflects the skill of a top florist but that doesn't mean it is impossible for you to achieve, with practise.

To make the headband start with an aluminium wire semicircle to fit the head. Soften the ends with a ball of fine decorative wire. Use glue or glue dots to secure them. Build up the middle with dry soft moss and bind it in place with lots of fine wire. Go back and forth, creating layer upon layer until you have the look you like, On the last layer thread on some beads.

Glue on small flowers such as the Ornithogalums, with Clematis or Tillandsia and finish with ribbons glued on the ends.





FLORAL CROWNS AND BUTTONHOLES FROM THE SENIOR COMPETITIONS





Worn on the brow
this floral crown has had the wire construction details hidden under a ribbon. Not only is it for concealment but it also makes a softer contact with the forehead when worn.

It would hold on the head with hairclips pushed around the ribbon.

The plant material would also be glued on so choosing the right ribbon is essential. Natural fabric rather than synthetic is stronger especially if the plant material is to be sprayed with water. The width of the ribbon has to both cover the wire and take the weight of the flora.

FLORAL CROWNS AND BUTTONHOLES FROM THE SENIOR COMPETITIONS

A commercial hair comb and a little bit of batting makes this set quick, cheap and effective. The cascading plant material is glued to the head of the comb and the middle of the candle and then the ends are hidden with the batting.





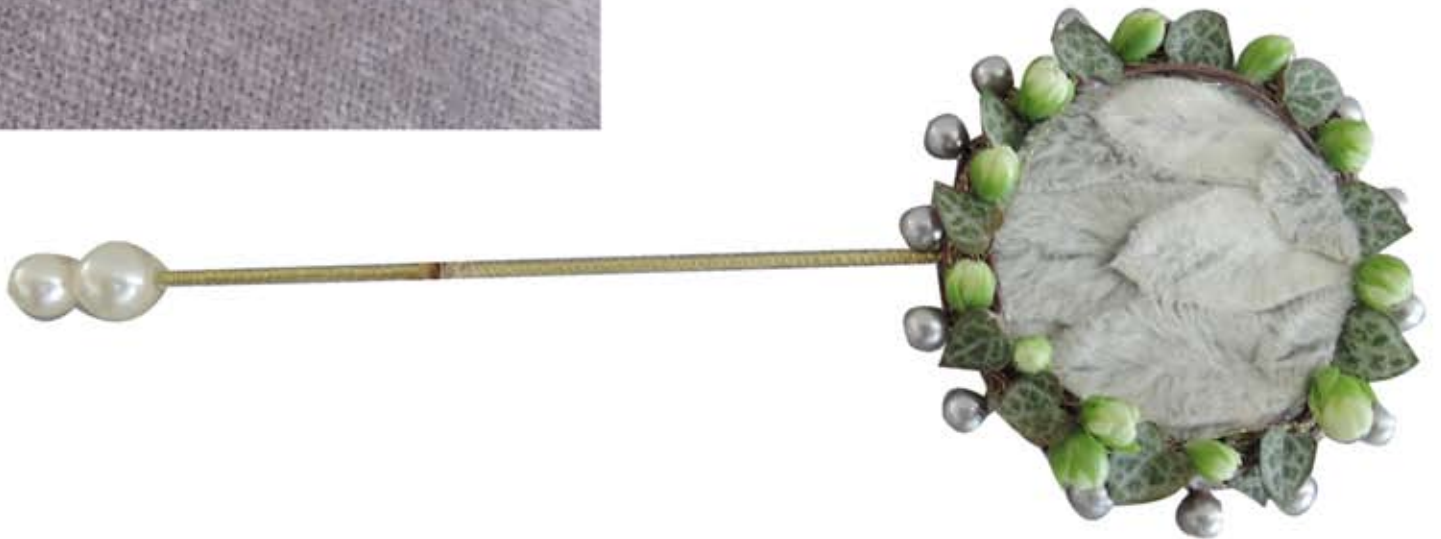
A hair slide and a shaped piece of cardboard get the wire, feather and pearl makeover for this set.

FLORAL CROWNS AND BUTTONHOLES FROM THE JUNIOR COMPETITIONS



IN THE JUNIOR SECTION the creations were just as beautiful and also full of plant combinations and techniques you will be able to use.

Keeping the scale of the selected material dainty, even though each of the components such as cones and succulents are visually heavy is the secret. The ribbon has been built up over the commercial hair comb, the candle and the buttonhole to become a platform for the plant material.



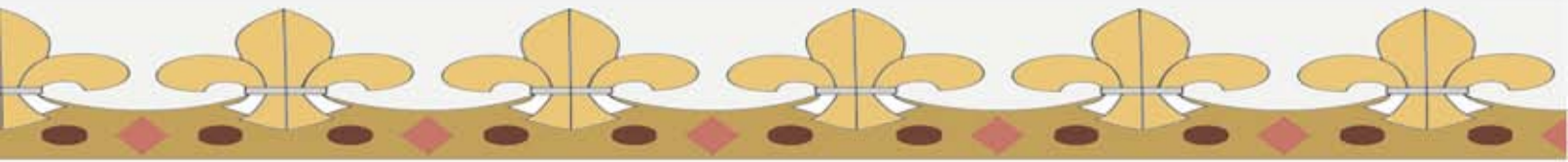
FLORAL CROWNS AND BUTTONHOLES FROM THE JUNIOR COMPETITIONS



FELTED WOOL makes the platforms for the glued plant material in this set.

Wool sticks to itself easily as under a microscope you would see tiny hooks on each fibre. Together with small dots of glue it would be quite solid, if a little pliable without cardboard support. Keeping the chosen plant material small and light would alleviate this potential problem.





The headband could be another case of using a commercial product and then covering it up, in this case with felted wool.

Soft and easy to wear, your time could then be spent gluing on the flora and pearl composition instead.

The great thing about this idea is that the band is sturdy enough to be able to take quite big flowers for much more impact.



MORE BUTTONHOLES FROM THE JUNIOR COMPETITIONS



THIS COLLECTION of buttonholes from other junior florists shows not only exquisite compositions but gives you a range of techniques next time you are looking for new ideas.





Each piece of plant material has been glued into place with cold florist's glue and as a result they are only expected to last for the duration of the preparation time and the occasion. Make the bases in advance and the gluing will be a last minute job.

MORE BUTTONHOLES FROM THE JUNIOR COMPETITIONS



Wool wrapped wire swirls not only make a great foil to only a few flowers, but the buttonhole will not catch on fabric. This would also be a wonderful shoulder spray in a bigger scale. Add a safety pin on the back for fastening.



Have you ever thought about a square buttonhole? Mount the plant material on cardboard which has been covered with Lamb's Ear leaves for something completely different and very effective.

And now you are thinking outside the square!! How about a leaf shape? Again with a cardboard base, this one is covered with texture (could it be coconut?) before the plant material was glued in place.



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