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Spectacular outdoor sculpture to spruce up gardens for summer

Fresh Air in the Cotswolds features talking-point pieces inspired by particle physics



Alison Berman's Figure Fountain Three, £15,000

Stone, glass, ceramics, mosaics, metal, resin, rubber, textiles and video. All feature in the eye-catching exhibits at this year's Fresh Air show (June 11-July 2), a Cotswolds showcase of outdoor sculpture (£38,000-£65,000) that champions the challenging and contemporary over the traditional.



Alison Crowther The Charred Pod 1 & 11, from £2,300

Smaller-scale [sculptures](#) will appear alongside monumental pieces at this 13th iteration of the biennial show, with the inspiration for the works having come from diverse and unexpected sources. Science fiction sparked Karen Tang's conceptual, mixed-media piece *The Paradise Syndrome* (£4,950), while Richard Farrington's circular, mild steel *Excentrifical* (£4,200) references particle physics. More bucolically, the river Coln – which runs through the five-acre gardens hosting the show – prompted Alison Berman to spend a year developing *Figure Fountain Three* (£15,000), a working fountain comprising three sculptural forms made from bronze resin.



Richard Farrington's *Excentrifical*



Simon Hempzell's *Cow Parsley* sculptures, from £39

Of the 92 exhibiting artists, more than 30 will be Fresh Air debutants, including Jeni Cairns, whose decorative *Enclosure* (£3,900) is made from [corten steel](#); Beth Forrester, whose *Belle* (£13,850) is a large-scale fantasy figure made from galvanised steel and wire; and Simon Hempzell, whose attenuated *Cow Parsley* sculptures (£39-£110) are inspired by seed-heads.



Beth Forrester's *Belle*, £13,850

Other highlights include Jenny Pickford's beguiling *Butterfly Effect* (£6,200), which unites galvanised forged steel with blown glass, while *Inhale Exhale* (£44,000), a collaboration between Richard Jackson and Sally Fawkes, is made from cast optical glass and stainless steel. Alison Crowther's otherworldly *The Charred Pod 1 & 11* (£2,300 and £2,800) were created from a storm-felled acacia tree in the Fresh Air gardens, while **Alison Munby used Guiting limestone from a local Cotswold quarry for her *Banksia* (£3,500).**

There is still space for more traditional work, too, such as Tessa Campbell Frazer's life-size red Highland stag in bronze (£65,000), Rachel Ricketts' life-size *Beowulf* wild boar (£2,650) in iron polymer resin with a rust patina, and Jitka Palmer's endearing *Flautist* (£1,300), sculpted from Bath stone.