



# 8<sup>e</sup> Festival des *Jardins métissés*

**8th Festival of Mixed Gardens**

**6<sup>th</sup> June – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2010**

SPECIFICATIONS  
PROFESSIONAL DESIGNERS



Theme :

# Steam Garden



**Wesserling,  
a garden space since 1699!**

Parc de Wesserling-  
Ecomusée Textile  
F-68470 Husseren Wesserling  
[www.parc-wesserling.fr](http://www.parc-wesserling.fr)  
[info@parc-wesserling.fr](mailto:info@parc-wesserling.fr)  
+33 (0)3 89 38 28 13

## APPLICATION FORM

---

I, the undersigned \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone/fax : \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

hereby undertake to present a garden project in the framework of the 8th Festival of Mixed Gardens which shall take place in Wesserling Park during the summer of 2010. I shall send the organiser my completed file by 10<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

Please send your application form to the following address

Parc de Wesserling – Musée textile

Eric JACOB

Rue du Parc

F - 68470 Husseren-Wesserling

**By 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009**  
**completed file before 10<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

## 8<sup>th</sup> Festival of Mixed Gardens

### The Wesserling Park

A former manufactory for printing fabrics, Wesserling Park is today an innovative, textile heritage museum located in an enchanting setting. The Vosges Mountains form a magnificent backdrop to this landscaped treasure awarded the «remarkable garden» label since 2005.

The management and events association of the Wesserling Textile Park (AGPTW) has been assigned by owner of the site, the General Council of the Haut-Rhin, with the task of rehabilitating the premises - which had lain in a state of neglect for several years. The site, whose wealth of industrial architectural heritage makes it unique in its kind in France, opened the doors of its textile museum in 1995. In 2000, work began on the 17 hectares of Park registered as a Historical Monument. The General Council wants the Park to be a reflection of its policy in terms of culture, heritage and tourism.

The gardens have been restored little by little, respecting three basic rules: respect for the environment, integrating the natural landscape and innovation. The founding of artists' gardens serves to underscore this message, give a new lease of life to the gardens and incite new interpretations. While the restoration of the Wesserling gardens has always been envisaged with all due respect to the site itself, it nonetheless offers a gateway to contemporary creation and artistic experiments.

### Aims of the artists' gardens

They should surprise the viewer, be revelatory of the site and unravel its history. They should stand out as powerful moments in the enclosure of the regular gardens, or outside. They should touch a broad public and be unexpected, finding their inspiration in the world of textiles and the history of the site, so as to rewrite the garden using a new vocabulary. They should make an impression and swathe the plateau of planting beds.

In short, the designers are invited to create a «work of garden art» where plants predominate.

**Ornamental, decorative, edible and useful plants must be used in some way.** The former Protestant owners of the site always adopted this blend of the aesthetic and the functional. This fact inspired the name of the event.

The organiser would like the event to maintain an experimental nature so that the site becomes an ephemeral laboratory for new territories, providing a new interpretation of the Park, rooted in the Park's history and acting as a backdrop to this historical setting.

### Identity file of the Festival of Mixed Gardens

With near 40,000 admissions in 2009, the Festival of Mixed Gardens ranks as one of the top «garden encounters» in the East of France.

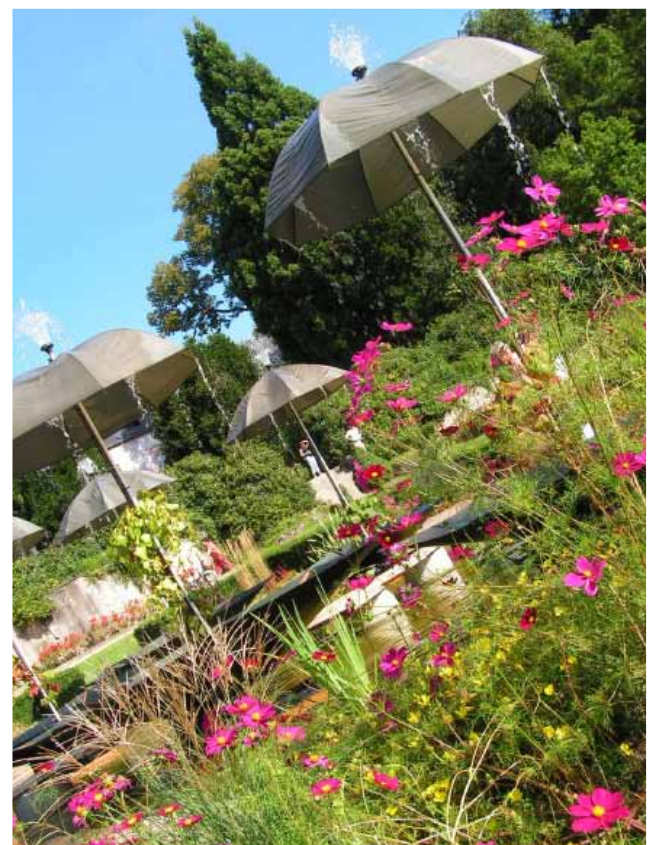
The sources of the Festival of Mixed Gardens lie in the field of events devoted to ephemeral gardens, which call into question the perpetuity of creations. The idea is to foster experimentation, the emergence of a new vocabulary and a new sociability around and within gardens.

These specifications have been drawn up for designers wishing to imagine and make ephemeral gardens within Wesserling textile park in the framework of the event, which is open to the public from 6<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2010.

The Festival of Mixed Gardens is open to artists, landscape architects, municipal parks and gardens departments, architects, designers and students, etc. **To be selected, they must show an ability to weave an original dialogue with the installation site, whose story is steeped in the textile industry.** They must also comply with these specifications.



Rotary Gardens - FMG 2008



Water Gardens - FMG 2007 - «Aqua sans Terre, Aqua l'envers» Pierre Le Preux

# Theme 2010: Steam Garden

**Designers are invited to create steam-filled gardens, swathe the gardens in steam, put them under pressure or conjure up a misty garden mystery...**

In the textile factory of Wesserling, steam has been ever present - virtually since the very beginnings. From steam-driven machines in the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the power station built in 1962, it has first and foremost provided the factory with the power required to drive thousands of machines. Steam produced from coal in the notorious power station called the «Grand Boiler» was used to generate electricity. It was also used to heat up the buildings. But its most noble usage was the steaming of fabric, a method employed right up to the very end (2003). The fabrics were placed in a steam bath after printing in order to fix the dyes. Thanks to this process, our shirts and dresses keep their bright colours wash after wash.

Steam was one of the driving forces of the Wesserling factory. Today, we want to pay homage to it in the garden. Your garden can explore the industrial theme, but can also allude to other uses of steam, such as cooking food products, ironing, cleaning, personal hygiene (sauna-hammam) and producing sound (organ, train whistles etc).

Designers can also refer to other meanings of the French term for steam «vapeur», which can also refer to alcohol fumes and the «fits of the vapours» to which the delicate ladies of the 18<sup>th</sup> century were so prone (La philosophie des vapeurs by Claude Paumerelle).

You can also mix the different steams which can be resonant, visual, smelly...

**Whatever meaning you go for, your plan must project a strong image within the enclosure of the garden - it must be imposing and fills out our plots to the maximum. Any steam machines or instruments used should suggest beautiful, monumental sources of inspiration.**

Nota bene: don't forget the title of our festival – we are looking for a hybrid garden, a blend between decorative and edible plants (see page 3: aims of the artists' gardens).

The designers will also suggest an itinerary within their space with the possibility of living in it for an instant, the time for a day-dream or a moment of respite.

**Designers must therefore propose a garden:**

**With steam and which is in harmony with the place, is surprising, mixed and «liveable» in.**

**A rich and various garden that is in harmony with the surroundings.**

## The intervention site

- 4 beds in the regular garden approx. 4 x (30m x 40m) including an area bordered by boxwood measuring 165 sqm  
**The 2 beds close to the terraces can be reserved for purely big artistic works (sculpture, volume, installation, etc.)**
- 1 or 2 spaces in the English garden: total surface = 400 sqm in the shrubbery
- 2 spaces located in the southern part of the terraces: (1 x 340 m<sup>2</sup>) + (1 x 176 m<sup>2</sup>)
- 1 space on the upper terrace at the foot of the southern façade of the chateau
- other spaces can be chose depending on the projects .

## Technical recommendations and information's

- All garden plots are equipped with a water outlet and electrical power point. The organizer is in possession of 2 complete sets to diffuse music (amplifier, loud-speaker, Cd reader).
- If necessary, artists are invited to team up with a landscape architect or a technician for assistance on how to use plant life in the work they propose.
- The passage(s) must be designed in a way that it will withstand the flow of several thousands of visitors. The designer will therefore pay special attention to the choice of materials.
- All means can be used, in terms of volume, colours, materials and shapes. Preference is given to textile, natural and recyclable materials or recycled materials.
- The 2 beds close to the terraces can be reserved for purely very **big** artistic works (sculpture, volume, installation, etc.). These works must be imposing and fills out our plots to the maximum.
- **Artists will pay particular attention to the durability of their installations (5 months in the open air) and will therefore choose the materials they use with care. The entire creation must withstand the passage of tens of thousands of visitors.**

## Budget and undertaking of the designers

### Fees.

**Design conception: 800, - euros incl. VAT**

**Installation of the project by yourself : until 2,000 euros incl. VAT.** The exact amount depends on the number of days you need to realize your project and will be decided by the organizers and the artist.

The fees are payable, after reception of an invoice, in June, or at the end of July for any «fragile» projects requiring a verification of the garden's reliability. For artists living in France, the invoice must bear a Siret number or a membership number for the maison des artistes, other artists must have an intra-Community number on their invoice. Failing these indications, the Park management association will draw up a contract. In this case, the fees amount becomes the amount of gross fees and social contributions will be deducted therefore.

**Supplies budget: until 7,000 euros incl. VAT.**

This sum covers solely plants, miscellaneous equipment, hiring and/Or transport of specific equipment and any intervention by an external company.

**The designers undertake to take part in a day of playful exchange with the public during the period of opening.** This should preferably be based on a theme of poetry, interactivity, movement or games etc. The date shall be arranged with the organiser.

The raw materials used shall remain the property of the Management Association of Wesserling Park.

**Attention: if the real supplies expenses are lower then the estimated budget it is impossible to transfer the non used money to fees, accommodation or travel budget.**



Water Gardens - FMG 2007 -  
«Rond'O» Olivier Berger / Alain Bietrix  
+ FMG 2008 and 2009

## Accommodation and travel expenses

Reimbursement of transport and accommodation costs shall be conducted on a lump-sum basis. Designers shall receive the relevant information upon selection. To be reimbursed, a very precise calendar including the dates of intervention, the number of people involved and where they come from must be provided so that an accurate budget can be drawn up. The resulting amount can in no case be exceeded. This practical aspect must be validated by contacting:

Éric Jacob – Director of the Management and Event Association of Wesserling textile park –  
 Parc de Wesserling - 68470 Husseren-Wesserling - France  
 Tel. : +33 (0)3.89.38.28.11 / Fax : +33 (0)3.89.82.68.32 / Mail : ejacob@parc-wesserling.fr

**On the inauguration day, all artists are invited to dine on the site in a warm and friendly atmosphere.**

## Backing the event

100,000 leaflets, 1,000 posters, and panels in situ will enhance the work of the artists selected for the Festival of Mixed Gardens.

Large-scale sign-posting with a number of panels and banners + overall sign-posting on the site will provide a link between the gardens.

A3-format project presentation panels (given to the steering committee) may be displayed in the Textile Museum during the event. Daily guided tours will be available for visitors.

Appended to this document you will find:

- A leaflet on the site
- A plan of the site with the intervention areas marked out



8<sup>e</sup> Festival des  
**Jardins métissés**

## Submitting projects

You will submit the file presenting your project either by post or by personally handing it in on site at the following address:

Association de Gestion et d'animation du parc textile de Wesserling  
Eric Jacob – Parc de Wesserling - 68470 Husseren-Wesserling - France

**The application form must be returned to the organiser by 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009. The files must arrive by 10<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at the very latest** to be validated before being presented to the panel of judges who will meet in February 2010. If relevant, it must contain the names and addresses of all the people participating in the project.

### Content of the file (A4 format):

- Colour plan of the garden, scale 1/100 (on A3 board)
- 1 or 2 perspectives
- A significant cross-section of the project
- A presentation text
- A technical text giving a detailed description of how the garden is constructed and the state in which you wish to find your garden plot when you arrive on site
- Detailed figures pertaining to the project (description, quantities etc.)
- A calendar of interventions including the number of how many days you need to make your project and with how many persons
- A description of how the bed or the work is to be managed during the festival
- A book with pictures and texts presenting from works that you have done before

Optional: A model of the project

**Only files that are complete involving an estimated cost until 7,000 € incl. VAT will be taken into consideration.**

## Installation of the gardens

The calendar for installing the gardens and the budget forecast must be scrupulously respected. On the day of delivery, the garden must be in place and conform to the original plan.

**The start-up of the site and delivery of the garden must occur on a week day (Monday to Friday) by appointment with Alain Périchon.**

**The garden must be completed and delivered between 5<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May 2010.**

No tools can be provided by the organiser.

An on-site technical team can be made available briefly. The team may also act in an advisory capacity. Once finished, the maintenance of the gardens shall be conducted by the team of gardeners at Wesserling Park. For garden plots where this is possible, the upkeep can be continued until the end of December. Some works may be lit up in the framework of our organised night-time strolls during the whole month of December for the event called «Christmas in the Garden ».

Any grass sowing must be conducted before 30<sup>th</sup> April or be replaced by laying turf.

## Calendar for the operation

You can visit the site and receive an oral presentation of the event all year round by appointment.

**Nov. – Dec. 2009:** Sending in application file.

## 2010

**10<sup>th</sup> Jan. :** Sending in complete file

**Feb. :** Selection of the projects by the panel\*

**Feb.-March :** Meeting to launch and refine the projects with the technical team: Alain Périchon and Eric Jacob

**March-May:** Interventions on site

**May:** Delivery and acceptance of gardens

**6th June :** Preview and official opening to the public

**October :** Some Gardens dismantled (to be validated with the organiser) the others will be dismantled in January 2011

\*the panel is composed of :

- 1 representative from the management association of the site
- 1 representative from the site's association for vegetable gardens
- 1 representative from the Regional Council or DRAC
- 1 artist
- 2 representatives from landscape architect federations
- an ex-officio personality



*Gardens of the 6 Sens- FMG 2009 -  
«Volubilis et le métier à tisser»  
Jean-Marc Schneider*

## Artistic property

The project design, drawings and all documents provided shall remain the property of the designers. The graphic documents may be published or displayed. The names of their authors shall always be specified. The same is true for photos which shall be taken by the Regional Council and the Organiser. They may be used, free of any royalties, for their respective promotional operations for the event and beautiful gardens.

## History of Wesserling Park

The story of the site begins when a hunting lodge was built on the moraine of Wesserling between 1699 and 1705. Abbot Philippe Eberhard von Loewenstein from Murbach entrusted the building of the lodge to the architect Mathias David. Gardens were planted near the building. The walls of the regular gardens are probably the remains of the original landscaping. After lying abandoned, the chateau and gardens were restored when they were purchased by Thomas Pierre Desmaret, the principle collector for the domains and salt tax in Thann in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The chateau was then hired out to Messrs Sandherr Courageot et Cie, who installed the first manufactory for Indiana fabric in the valley in 1762. This marks the beginning of the site's textile story. Manufacturing was made possible by the proximity of water sources. The fabrics were spread out near the factory on the West side – probably where the vegetable garden lies today.

The business activity was conducted by a succession of industrialists until the mechanical spinning mill was built in 1802, enabling the activity to be transferred to more appropriate premises along the river Thur. From now on, the chateau would be home to the manufacturing families. Indeed, a micro-society, or sort of cooperative, was introduced at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century under Mr Gros. Social structures were set up (church, school, infirmary) and several buildings sprang up from 1818 with houses for the supervisors, outbuildings etc.

The chateau was transformed by Aimé Philippe Roman and Jacques Gabriel Gros in 1808. The avenue of linden trees was planted and the garden was modified with the high terracing being simplified and the regular gardens were apparently devoted to growing fruit and vegetables, which is still done today in the vegetable garden. Fruit and vegetables continued to be cultivated in the regular gardens throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The leisure garden of the 18<sup>th</sup> century was thus combined with growing produce. Completing the picture were greenhouses standing against the wall of the terraces. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the regular garden, terraces and park were altered while keeping their 18<sup>th</sup>-century structure. The terrace steps were also changed (to what they are today).

In 1933, the «printing» section was bought up by Boussac, and the chateau was divided into several apartments for the salaried workers of the factory. The buildings started to deteriorate.

The property was bought up in a bad state of repair by the General Council of the Haut-Rhin, and the first repair work was conducted. The park and chateau were registered in the Additional List of Historical Monuments by Order of 16<sup>th</sup> February 1998.

The extraordinary industrial adventure of this former royal manufactory is presented in the Textile Museum of Haute-Alsace, set up in a superb industrial building constructed in 1819 on the periphery of Wesserling Park.

## Wesserling Park, structure and composition

Wesserling Park has undergone several alterations throughout its history. The current site as it can be discovered and interpreted today, has been totally reversed since the main entrance was modified. The site covers 17 hectares and is being completely restructured. Indeed, the overall restoration (architecture and landscape) will only be completed in a decade or so. The site is steeped in history.

The park in itself is made up of several historical, landscape units (some structures are still close to what they were in the 18<sup>th</sup> century whereas others remind us of a less distant past - 19<sup>th</sup> c., late 19<sup>th</sup> c. and early 20<sup>th</sup> c.). It is set in a beautiful natural landscape since the foothills of the Vosges mountains serve as a backdrop.

The series of gardens within the vast park conjures up different atmospheres which are based on the model of the moraine and bring together a variety of settings and remarkable viewpoints, in particular from the high terraces towards the regular garden or from the regular garden towards the chateau.

A heritage of high-quality tree plantations frames each space.

## Wesserling gardens – the events and restoration policy

The management and events association of Wesserling textile park was set up in 1997.

To enhance the exceptional qualities of the site and pay homage to its history, the association is conducting a proactive policy of organising events and restoring Wesserling gardens, notably by opening the site to contemporary artistic creation.

Indeed, through its gardens and existing structures (Textile Museum, Wesserling gardens association, institutional partners like the Local and Regional Authorities, CEAAC, and DRAC, etc.), the park is able to make an ever-growing public aware of garden arts, and also creation in the field of contemporary art and textiles.

The spirit of the park has been re-awakened. An aid survey to set up a restoration and rehabilitation project for the park was conducted in 2000. Following a survey of the different stages of landscaping in the gardens, the initial feasibility document determined the authenticity of each landscaped unit on the site and proposed a course of action for each sector of the park, with a plan of action spanning around a decade.

Since this survey, the vegetable gardens of Wesserling have been rehabilitated by the Wesserling gardens association and their partners, based on a project by Agnès Daval and Philippe Raguin, the landscape architects in charge of the survey. The garden house has also been restored and houses a restaurant today. Following a detailed survey to restore them to their late 19-century state, the terraces have also been reworked.

**These first phases of the work schedule and the large-scale organisation of events led to Wesserling Park being awarded the «remarkable garden» label in 2005. This label is awarded by the French Ministry for Culture.**

## Contacts

**Parc de Wesserling- Écomusée textile**  
**Rue du parc**  
**F-68470 Husseren-Wesserling**  
**Tel: +33 (0)3 89 38 28 08**  
**[info@parc-wesserling.fr](mailto:info@parc-wesserling.fr)**  
**[www.parc-wesserling.fr](http://www.parc-wesserling.fr)**

- **General organisation: Eric Jacob - Director**  
[ejacob@parc-wesserling.fr](mailto:ejacob@parc-wesserling.fr)
- **Technical questions: Alain Périchon**  
[aperichon@parc-wesserling.fr](mailto:aperichon@parc-wesserling.fr)
- **Communication : Isabelle Juanes**  
[ijuanes@parc-wesserling.fr](mailto:ijuanes@parc-wesserling.fr)
- **Accounting: Christelle Mehlen**  
[cmehlen@parc-wesserling.fr](mailto:cmehlen@parc-wesserling.fr)



Rotary Gardens- FMG 2008 + FMG 2009  
«Biorotative» Guillaume Früh



Water Gardens - FMG 2007 + FMG 2009  
«Le jardin du vieux baquet» Céline Le Bris