

# The City Planter

The magazine for urban gardeners

## Michael Landy and other artists explore nature and city in a London reserve

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*'Blooming Britain', photographs of amateur gardeners by Henry / Bragg are part of the Wild New Territories exhibition*

Bees buzzing around a bull's skull; Amazonian fireflies flitting through London's trees and plastic milk bottles decorated with delicate paintings of plants are all part of a new touring art exhibition about relationships between the urban and the wild which is now in London.



Beehive installation 2012 credit Gordon Cheung

Michael Landy, Gillian Wearing and seventeen other contemporary artists have contributed to the Wild New Territories exhibition, also visiting Vancouver and Berlin, which is running concurrently at Camley Street Natural Park and The Foundling Museum.

In addition to his evolving beehive installation which contains bees building honeycomb around a bull's skull, Gordon Cheung is showing paintings, sculpture and video that reference economic and ecological bubbles, including a collage series titled 'Tulipmania'.

The 'La Wefan Manigua' project, created by Jamie Griffiths, Diego Samper and Rob Scharein, aims to bring the sights and sounds of the Colombian Amazon to an inner-city London park, with a 30-minute soundscape and, after dark, projections of fireflies into the trees. Ron den Daas' installation of plastic milk bottles painted with plants references the effects of man-made goods on complex natural ecosystems.

Michael Landy's 'Greater Plantain', from a series of etchings he has made of weeds, or 'street flowers' is also on show. Landy refers to weeds as "marvellous, optimistic things that you find in inner London ... They occupy an urban landscape which is very hostile and they have to be adaptable and find little bits of soil to prosper". Gillian Wearing is represented by an early photograph called 'Roger and Peter'.

*Wild New Territories ([www.wildnewterritories.com](http://www.wildnewterritories.com)) is at Camley Street Natural Park until October 31st ([www.wildlondon.org.uk](http://www.wildlondon.org.uk)) and at The Foundling Museum until December 16th ([www.foundlingmuseum.org.uk](http://www.foundlingmuseum.org.uk))*