





Take-away Plan from The Fleming's and Trailfinders Australian garden

by Mark Browning

This garden is designed around leaves rather than flowers and relies on the dramatic foliage for its appeal. These plants provide year-round interest and are drought-tolerant. The style is strongly architectural with striking contrasts and key specimen plants.

Ideally the border should be set next to contrasting blue paving with white thyme running between the stones.

Plants used

- *Phormium tenax* 'All Black' x 1:
Deep purple, striking upright form.

- *Thymus* species x 12:
White-flowered thyme threads its way between paving.

- *Sesleria caerulea* x 5:
Similar to the ophiopogon the leaves of this plant have silvery undersides. It will create contrast with the darker leaves of the ophiopogon.

- *Loropetalum chinense* var. *rubrum*
'Plum Delight' x 1:
Dramatic deep burgundy foliage and large dark pink flowers.

- *Dracaena draco* x 1:
This is a long-term favourite of Mark Browning's, in his words 'a trippy, groovy plant'. If you can't get hold of this you could substitute an agave or aloe (but keep these in a pot to bring indoors in the winter as they are frost-tender).

- *Ophiopogon planiscapus*
'Nigrescens' x 12:
Small, grass-like plant with leaves turning a striking black when grown in full sun.

- *Heuchera* 'Licorice' x 3:
Loved for its deep black foliage.

- *Tiarella* 'Spring Symphony' x 5:
White foamy flowers held above mid-green foliage. Easy to grow.