

Outdoor art for the garden

Where to see it

"Souvenir of England" by Jane Prophet is just one of the exhibits in Still Life, an exhibition of garden art organised by The Meadow Gallery (www.meadowgallery.co.uk) at Hanbury Hall, Worcestershire, until September 6.

The striking piece is made up of a massive glass snow globe containing a dead apple tree and has apple blossoms blowing around the dome. It is designed to be "a memento to the English orchard, which is fast becoming an endangered species".

The fascinating show also includes commissions that refer to a golden era in British gardens - the formal landscapes of the early 18th century.

Where to buy it

Artist and sculptor Hilary Arnold-Baker, who works on a commission basis, will design a bespoke piece made-to-measure for your garden (www.hilaryarnoldbaker.co.uk). She has also developed a range of tables for outdoor use, which have hand-painted surface designs and simple lines on light steel trestles.

If you're lacking inspiration, visit the Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden, in the Surrey hills. The gardens provide the perfect showcase for the collection of ceramic, wood, glass and water sculptures by contemporary artists from across the world (01306 627269; www.hannahpescharsculpture.com).

Garden artworks don't have to be serious or particularly expensive. Wire chickens from The Worm that Turned in Nottingham cost just £39. The fox-proof birds have a trap door on their backs so they can be filled with windfall apples or stuffed with moss (0845 6052505; www.worm.co.uk).

Meanwhile colourful flower windmills from QS are an economic way of livening up your garden (£2, 08449 020020; www.qsgroup.co.uk).