

"Inspired By Time"

Present

by
Orisis Shanghai Ltd.

Orisis

Official Entry Garden for
**Melbourne International Flower
Garden Show 2018**

Introduction

The 2018 Orisis show garden has been created by a dedicated in-house Orisis team. They have collaboratively shared opinions and inspirations, while taking on individual responsibilities, to collectively see the garden materialise. The profiles and responsibilities of the team members are included as an appendix.

As this is a garden that has been inspired by Ancient Chinese Culture, it was deemed necessary to present some background information, along with the design intent, to give the visitor a context to understand the garden. This background information can be found following the Design Intent.

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Design Intent:

Chinese Garden design has evolved over thousands of years and has been influenced by historical events and philosophical thinking over time. Orisis' garden is a modern interpretation of that evolution which can be easily put into reality in an Australian urban environment. It captures many of the traditional and contemporary Chinese influences (both softscape and hardscape) integrated together by combining old and new materials. It also offers the appeal and nostalgia to the growing Australian-Chinese community.

Combining materials such as granite, corten steel, glass and timber in constructing the garden is a merge of past and present Chinese garden design. Mountain and bamboo patterns are evident in the garden, as well as mountain like stones. These can be viewed through the gateway which utilizes a technique called "borrowed scenery" to create an illusion that the garden is bigger than it actually is. The use of borrowed scenery as a landscape design feature in china, dates back to a 16th century book; called the "Craft of Gardens".

The plant selection also tells a story about time. China is rich in horticultural diversity, although traditionally the plant pallet used in Chinese landscape was quite narrow and plants were selected for how they reflected Chinese beliefs. Around the 1900's intrepid "Plant Hunters" such as George Forrest from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, discovered China's horticultural diversity and made expeditions to China's Yunnan Province. These plants usually ended up in botanical gardens or to the private gardens of wealthy collectors. Many of the varieties of plants that we enjoy today are descendants from the plants that were discovered on these expeditions.

In summary, the plant selection in the garden can be divided into three broad intents: traditional Chinese plants, two styles of contemporary plants; derived from China originally and new for China (reflecting the significance of Orisis business model, "improving horticulture in China"). The new wave of plants to China is also shaping a new trend of contemporary Chinese landscape design.

Key Landscape Elements and its Representations:



- Pavilion**—it's the area of the garden that represents where scholars learned and enhanced their skills in fine arts and calligraphy.
- Gateway**—also known as Moon Gate, it's believed that crossing it will bring success, happy life and provide good harvest in autumn. Also represents the beginning of the journey and the transcending of time. (refer to background story)
- Water**—it is viewed as the life of the garden and also represents the sea that eight immortals crossed looking for the elixir of life. (refer to background story)
- Stepping Stones**—represents the "eight immortals" that crossed the sea and the group of islands from the ancient Chinese legend. (refer to background story)
- Elements with Mountain Patterns**—mountains are symbol of stability, endurance, and are integral part of traditional Chinese gardens. Also utilizes a technique called "borrowed scenery." (refer to background story)
- Red Lantern**—the lighting of lanterns during festivals signifies that families will have a happy and successful year. The tradition was made popular during Tang dynasty

Additional garden feature "The Five Senses"

Senses	Elements that incorporates with the senses
Sight	illuminated night garden, contrasting plants, patterns, depth of layers and "borrowed view".
Sound	Water features, Singing birds and Chinese themed music.
Smell	Osmanthus Scent and fragrant smoke from burning incense.
Touch	Variety of materials and textures.
Taste	Complimentary Osmanthus Tea and Mooncakes for the guests.

3. Background information: “The China Garden Story”

Chinese Garden style has evolved over thousands of years and has been influenced by historical events and the philosophical thinking of the time. Emperors garden’s of 4000 years ago were vast imperial parks built to impress guests, hunt game and produce fruit and vegetables. Around 2000 years ago, Islands and Mountains became a feature of Chinese garden design which continues to prevail today, owing to a legendary tale which describes a place where eight immortals lived and there was no winter, no suffering and plentiful food. This place is where Mt Penglai between China and Korea, rises above three islands. Many Chinese gardens both modern and ancient have a group of islands or a single island, with an artificial mountain representing the “Island of Eight Immortals”.

The Period (221-618 AD) following the collapse of the Han Dynasty saw the birth of “Scholar Gardens”, built by Scholars (former officials), who left the imperial court during periods of political instability. These gardens functioned as a place for reflection and escape from the outside world and the reality, of an often-harsh life. A courtyard was a central feature that was used to “escape to the inner world” and focus on nature, literature, calligraphy, philosophy, poetry, painting and music. This period is known as “the time of Gardens for poets and scholars”. The gardens were inspired by, and in turn inspired the cultivation of fine arts.

Tang Dynasty (619 -907 AD), which was prosperous and saw the elements of the first scholars gardens evolve into “Classical Chinese Gardens”, which infused the grandness of imperial gardens with space and pavilions for the continued development of the arts. This period also saw advancements in plant horticulture, including plant introductions, domestication, and transplantation and grafting. Plant aesthetics were highlighted and books on plant classification and cultivation were published. With the prosperity, the appreciation of gardens as a place for refining the arts and the sharing of design knowledge thrived across China. The Orisis garden is a modern interpretation of a ‘Scholars Garden’ which can easily be created in an Australian urban landscape. It captures many of the Chinese landscape design elements (both plants and other features) that have evolved through history and Chinese beliefs.

The design features and what they represent to Chinese People

Combination of water and mountains	The Yin and Yang or opposite forces. The water (Yin) is the calm dark soft elements and the Mountain (Yang) is the bright and powerful element. The word for landscape in China is “shan shui”, which literally translates to Mountain Water.
The mountain peaks	Mountain Peaks are a symbol of stability and endurance and are integral to classical Chinese gardens. The use of mountains in the Chinese landscape evolved from the Eight Immortals legends. In this garden it also is designed to represent the borrowed view through the Moon Gate.
The Moon Gate and Borrowed View (jie jing)	It is believed that a moon gate will bring a success, a happy life and provide a bumper harvest during autumn. In this garden you can see the mountains through the round door, which utilizes a technique called “borrowed scenery, to create an illusion that the garden is bigger than it actually is. The use of borrowed scenery as a landscape design feature in china dates back to a 16 th century book; called the “Craft of Gardens”.
Water	The water can represent many things in the garden. It is viewed as “the blood” of the garden as well as symbolises communication, dreams and fortune in China. A still water body represents the Yin (calm) in Taoism.
The Eight Stepping Stones	represent the “Eight immortals”, and the group of islands from the legend
Red Lantern	The lighting of lanterns during festivals signifies that families will have success and be happy. The tradition was made popular in the Tang Dynasty.
The Poem inscribed on the Steel:	Wang Wei is a famous Tang dynasty poet, musician and painter. Inscription was a typical element of a ‘Scholars Garden”, so we have included an inscription of one of Wang Wei’s famous poems <i>Sitting alone in a secluded bamboo grove, I was singing will playing the Qin, Before Realizing, in the deep grove, The moon had already joined me With her beautiful light</i>

4. Background Story; the plant selection and significance

The plant selection in this garden also tells a story about time. China is especially rich in horticultural diversity, although traditionally the plant pallet used in Chinese landscape was quite narrow and plants were selected for how they reflected Chinese beliefs. Around the 1900's intrepid "Plant Hunters", such as George Forrest from the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, discovered China's horticultural diversity and made expeditions to China's Yunnan Province. These plants usually ended up in botanical gardens or the private gardens of wealthy collectors. Many of the varieties of plants that we enjoy today are descendants from the plants that were discovered on these expeditions. A quick google of "forrestii" will generate quite a list of garden plants that were introduced to western landscapes, thanks to this expedition. The plant selection in this garden can be divided into three broad intents: traditional Chinese plants, two styles of contemporary plants; derived from China originally and new for China (reflecting the significance of Orisis business model, "improving horticulture in China". The new wave of plants to China is also shaping a new wave of contemporary Chinese landscape design.

In tune with the theme, "Inspired by Time", the visitor to this garden is exposed to both contemporary and traditional Chinese plant presentation and selection

Contemporary and traditional plants and presentation

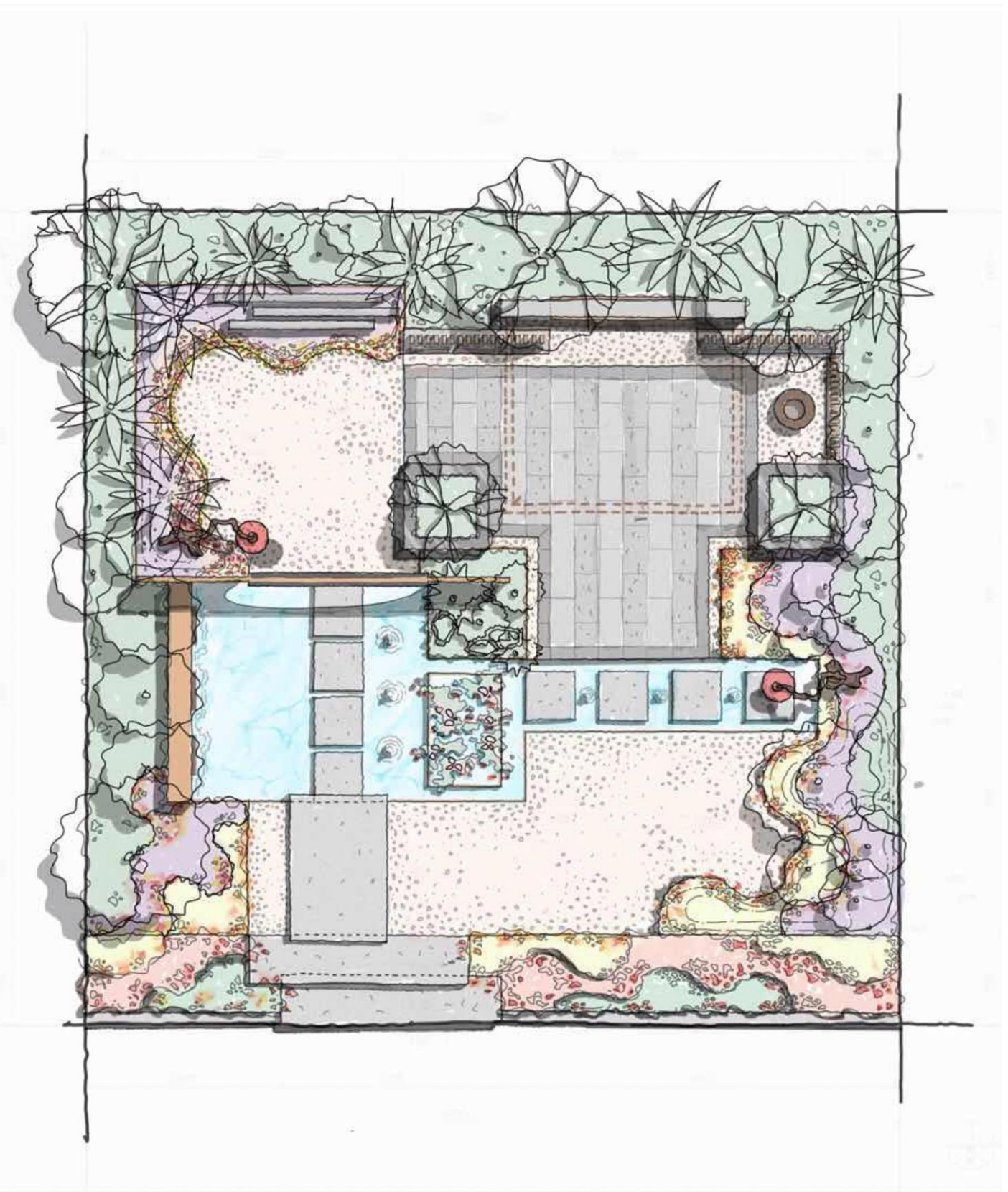
Design Genera	Plant Presentation	Examples of Plant Selections	
Traditional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous varieties Natural shape and form of the plant Particular symbolic meaning Widely used in traditional gardens 	Maple Ginkgo Crape Myrtle Ophiopogon Liriope	Nandina Rhododendron Camellia Osmanthus Loropetalum
Contemporary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced cultivars of native Chinese species Brand new species from all over the world Various shape and exotic style Colour contrast in planting selection Popular in modern China landscape Some perfectly integrated into Traditional Garden 	Pieris Aucuba Abelia Celosia	Heuchera Helleborus Carex Hosta

The Chinese significance of the traditional plants

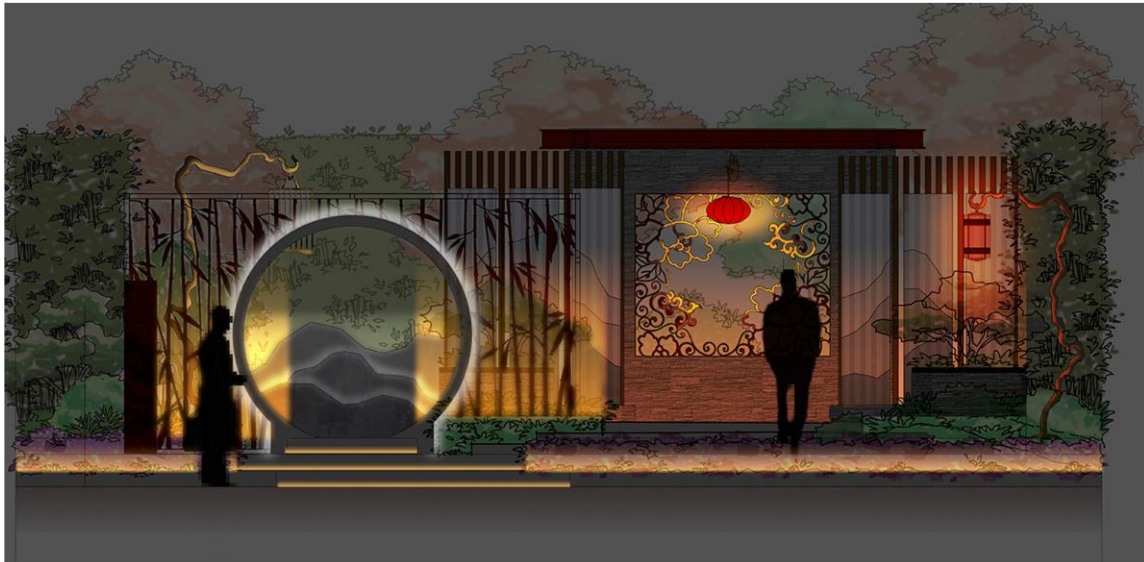
Maple	Mainly Japanese maple (<i>Acer palmatum</i>). The scholars loved the natural spreading or weeping shape and spectacular autumn colours. Many ancient poems praise these magnificent scenes of red maples dating back to the third century AD. (e.g. Du Mu (803-852) "Stopping in my sedan chair in the evening, I sit admiring the maple grove; The frost-covered leaves are redder than the flowers in early spring")
Ginkgo	Ginkgo biloba is a rare Mesozoic relict plant, originally found in the wild in China. Today, it is cultivated all over the world. Chinese ancestors not only like the cute fan-shaped leaves and beautiful gold colour in autumn, but also treat it's seed as a precious medicinal material. They usually call it "baiguo (white fruit)" or "yinxing (silver apricot)" in mandarin. Due to its slow growth rate, Ginkgo will be called "gong sun shu (grandpa and grandson tree)", it refers to a story that a man planted ginkgo tree and he should wait until his grandson was born to eat the seed.
Crepe Myrtle	Crepe Myrtle is a widely spread species all over the world. The variety most commonly planted in China is Lagerstroemia indica. It has been recorded in ancient literature that, "their flowers could last 100 days from blooming and the branches can dance when the trunk is scratched. Chinese people love the crepe myrtle for its long blooming period, but also because it was traditionally a small tree that could bloom in summer when everything else is green.
Bamboo	Bamboo is called "zhu" in China. It has the same pronunciation with another Chinese character which means blessing. Bamboo has many good meanings in China. It has been seen as a gentleman among the plants. Bamboo has seven advantages. First of all, it is straight, it means it is honest. Secondly, it has joints and keeps growing, that shows its hardworking. Thirdly, bamboo is empty inside, it means it is modest and unassertive. Fourthly, it has flowers but rarely blooms, that shows it is simple and native. Fifthly, upright and strong. Sixth, bamboo grow in groups, it means it is friendly and like to be with each other. Lastly, many articles were written on bamboo in ancient China, these pieces of bamboo were used as books. So that the bamboo has the sense of responsibility.
Nandina	Shade tolerant evergreen shrub with elegant shape and natural spread branches. It is better to plant nandina beside stones. It has red leaves, red stems and red fruits in the corresponding season. Red is Chinese's favourite colour and brings good luck. Nandina is also an import species in miniascape (landscapes in a bowl) in southern China
Rhododendron	Rhododendron in mandarin is "Du Juan". Coincidentally at the same time the word can also represent a cuckoo bird. There is a story where a cuckoo tirelessly sobs with sorrow in the spring until its mouth bleed and the blood dyed the Rhododendron red. The bird is a symbol of sadness and lonely. The reason Chinese ancestors made up this story is that the cuckoo's bill is red, and the most frequent crow time is same with blooming period of Rhododendron. Majority part of Rhododendron planted in traditional garden is in Subgenus Tsutsusi, which we call it azaleas. Rhododendrons is an

	important flowering element in the garden. Additionally, its round compact shape is also appropriate to plant beside stones. Meanwhile, the root of Rhododendrons is a good material for root carving, many exquisite decorations are made from rhododendron roots in the past.
Camellia	Camellia is a very important flower that could bloom in winter and early spring. It is a native species in subtropical China. In the south, Camellia are planted in the yards. However, they are a potted flower in the north. Camellia flowers are hidden in the evergreen and glossy dark green leaves, usually called Shy Lady in Flowers in Chinese history. Chinese horticulturalists are keen to developing Camellia new varieties. For example, cultivars Camellia japonica and Camellia sasanqua are widely used in traditional Chinese gardens.
Sweet Osmanthus	Sweet osmanthus or Osmanthus fragrans is a shrub or small tree that widely used in Chinese traditional garden thanks to its evergreen and scent characteristic. In ancient China quiet, a large number of poets and scholars had praised osmanthus in their poems. And there is a fairy tale which describes, a man called Wugang, who was given a punishment, to chop a tall osmanthus on the moon. Despite tirelessly chopping, the osmanthus seemed would not fall. Te story has many understandings, both commendatory or derogatory. The tree is named Gui in mandarin, the pronunciation is similar with the other plants and some varieties could bloom last 7 months. This has lead to confusion in modern China . Some people would recognise it as cassia or bay leaf. Generally, sweet osmanthus plays an important role in ancient China. Sweet osmanthus gives out a strong sweet and aromatic smell, the smell announces the arrival of autumn. Chinese love the fragrance of osmanthus. During the blooming season people would keep osmanthus flowers in salt or sugar. It is a very popular condiment in Chinese dessert. Chinese people would also infuse osmanthus flowers with green or black tea leaves, creating a scented tea called “guì huā chá”.
Ophiopogon	Ophiopogon is a kind of evergreen grass which is tolerant of full shade. Its natural shape creates a perfect fusion with water and stones in traditional gardens. There is an old story. The third of three legendary emperors who created the Chinese state called Da Yu. After he successfully controlled some disastrous floods, there was a big harvest of crops. Da Yu ordered excess seeds from this crop to be put into the river. The seeds grew into Ophiopogon. When the grass grows in a place called Yuzhou, people often call Ophiopogon as Yu’s leek. Ophiopogon is a very important traditional Chinese medicine and nutrition. So far, the root of Ophiopogon japonicus is applied in traditional Chinese Medicine

4. Concept Plan



5. Elevations



The 2018 Orisis Show Garden Team

The 2018 Orisis show garden has been created by a dedicated in-house Orisis team. They have collaboratively shared opinions and inspirations, while taking on individual responsibilities, to collectively see the garden materialise. The profiles of the team members are captured below.



**Christopher
Edward Eulloran**
Chief Designer

Skills and Experience:

Edward has a Bachelor Degree in Architecture and with more than 10 years' experience working in Landscape Design from Concept Phase up to Construction Stage. He has been involved on various projects in South East Asia, Middle East and in Mainland China.



**XinXin Wang
Joy Wang**
Junior Designer

Skills and Experience:

Joy graduated from the University of Sheffield (UK) and achieved her Master's Degree, majoring in Landscape Architecture. Before that, she also studied Urban Landscape Art Design at Nanjing Forestry University. She joined Orisis in 2017 and takes part in Design Department. She has been involved in park design, nursery design and garden design.



**Chen Wang
Nathan**
Horticulturalist Specialist

Skills and Experience:

Nathan graduated from Nanjing Forestry University and achieved Master of Botany, majoring in Dendrology. He is proficient in plant taxonomy. As an undergraduate participated in scientific expeditions several times. After graduating, he has worked in Palm Landscape Co. and Watershed (Shanghai) as horticultural specialist. Recently he has a job as new variety breeder in Orisis.



Michelle Jones
*Media
Communications and
Publicity*

Skills and Experience:

Michelle graduated from Monash University with a Bachelor of Science (Hons) and Diploma in Education. Her professional career includes 15 years teaching and Educational Leadership. She was a founding partner of Blerick Tree Farm, Australia. Michelle joined Orisis in 2012 “Director of International Business Development” where she continues to drive the company’s future expansion and operations to a global level.



Ron Geritz
Project Leader

Skills and Experience:

Ron is a graduate from Monash University, Melbourne, completing a Bachelor of Science with Honours, a Diploma in Education and a Diploma in Applied Japanese Linguistics. He speaks fluent Dutch, German, and English and basic Japanese. Ron has over 20 years’ experience in propagating and growing trees as founding partner of Blerick Tree Farm, Australia. Ron joined Orisis in 2012 as the Director of Nursery Operations.



**Guijuan Mao
Cherry**
*Procurement and
Budget*

Skills and Experience:

Cherry graduated from Nanjing Forestry University, with a Bachelor of Forestry. After graduation, she worked in the landscape engineering industry for 5 years, the cost of construction. She joined Orisis in 2016 and was involved in cost control.