

DARTINGTON HALL

One Endless Garden

The Photographs of Carol Ballenger

In its magnificent setting just above the tidal reaches of the River Dart in Devon, Dartington Hall dates back to the fourteenth century and its landscapes have been used and shaped for generations. In 1925 Leonard and Dorothy Elmhirst acquired the neglected house and garden, and with considerable resources they were able to put their ideas for social and rural regeneration into practice – an endeavour they called “The English Experiment”. The photographs in this book are the result of many years exploring this inspiring landscape and reflect the ethos of the place as embraced by the Elmhirsts, the founders of the modern Dartington.

“Carol Ballenger’s enchanting photographs are evocative, contemplative and sensuous. She has been able to portray the different moods and seasons of Dartington Hall Gardens in a way that fields, forests and flowers come to life”.

Satish Kumar

“Carol Ballenger has a remarkable eye for what conveys the essence of place”.

Graham Hardman
Japanese Garden Society, UK

... a true artist with an enviable talent for capturing those special transient moments within her photography: a leafy pattern on wet stone; a knotty root breaking the moss; or moody views floating above and beyond arable fields - all these capture the moment and hint at so much more.

Graham A. Gammin
Dartington Grounds & Gardens Manager

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Carol is a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, a member of the Devon Guild of Craftsmen and a founder member of Arts Live who promote exhibitions, performances and workshops, often combining photography, music and poetry.

She enjoys walking in and photographing the landscape, both rural and urban, and sees her work as meditations on the environment.

Carol’s photographs are in collections in this country and abroad and have been exhibited widely, including for the National Trust, The Dartmoor National Park Authority, The Royal Photographic Society and the Edinburgh Festival. London exhibitions include St. Martin-In-The-Fields and The Barbican Galleries and the Embassy of Japan. She has recently exhibited at The New York Hall of Science.

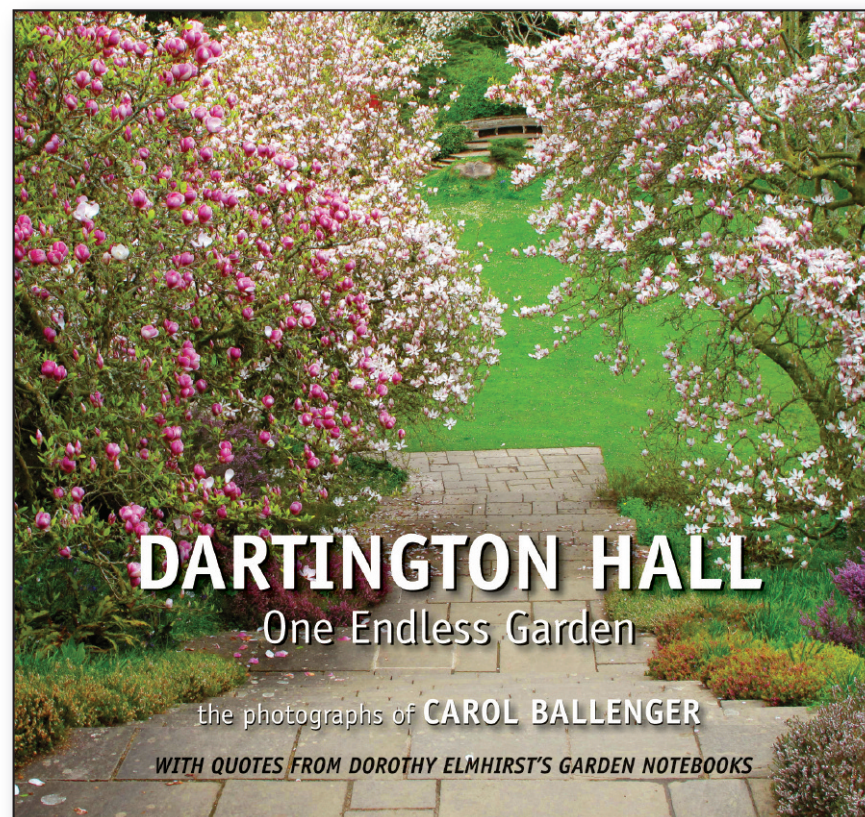
Two previous books of her photographs with poems by John Pows, *Dartmoor Dreams* and *Stone Universe*, were also published by Halsgrove.

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DARTINGTON HALL ONE ENDLESS GARDEN



"The two perfect days that always come sometime – warm and still – and full of sun and shade and exquisite soft colour."



"The small group of fritillaries in the rock garden seems more fascinating than ever. We must have more."



"Two really warm days – tea out of doors – cotton dress on – Joyful!"



"The moment when flame-coloured leaves of the chestnuts lie along the upper terrace like a shining carpet – reflecting light and colour – extraordinary glowing effect."



WITH QUOTATIONS FROM DOROTHY ELMHIRST



"High Meadow has been cut down and forked over – looks like a chocolate carpet."



"These moonlight nights have been quite unearthly – absolute stillness. Mild softness in the air."