

# TRIBECA PENTHOUSE GARDEN

New York City, USA



Tribeca Penthouse Garden is a dynamic and visually exciting composition of contemporary, angular lines, interspersed with the soft forms of vegetation in a stylish juxtaposition of form and texture.

The contemporary form of the paving comes from the use of a modular stone-paving unit laid in a pattern that diffuses into the lawn and planting, so that there are very few strong edges in the garden. In places planting of silky thread grass erupts from the paving, further enhancing the diffusion of paving and plush landscape.

A re-imagined wood deck breaks the surface of the garden, like a glacier, rising up to provide flexible seating on which to sit or lounge. A stainless steel hot tub has been set into the deck, providing contemporary luxury living. Beyond the deck lies an area of naturalistic prairie style planting of switchgrass, indiagrass, and dwarf prairie dropseed, which provides a wildlife habitat and a food source for local birds.

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#### Category

Intensive and extensive green roof

#### Year

2012

#### Area

600 m<sup>2</sup> (6,500 sq. ft.)

#### Landscape Architecture

HMWhite

#### Architecture

Steve Blatz Architects

#### Awards

The Chicago Athenaeum,  
American Architecture Award  
*Interior Design* magazine, Best of the Year

#### Photography

Nikolas Koenig Photography  
HMWhite





*Below and next page:* The **design** is based on the architecture of the building, **and** draws the eye out to the city beyond.







Semi-mature quaking aspens and crimson glory vines, offer vertical vegetation systems that promote a seamless expansion of the penthouse interior.



**Climate**

USDA Zone 7b (-14.9 to -12.3°C / 5 to 10°F)

**Plants**

- Blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis* 'Blonde Ambition')
- Crimson glory vine (*Vitis coignetiae*)
- Dwarf prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis* 'Tara')
- English ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Fine-leaf fescue (*Festuca tenuifolia* 'Angel Hair')
- Green fescue (*Festuca ovina*)
- Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum* 'Glowing Embers')
- Nash indiagrass (*Sorghastrum nutans* 'Cheyenne')

- Prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)
- Prairie junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*)
- Quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides* 'Prairie Gold')
- Silky thread grass (*Nassella tenuissima*)
- Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum* 'Northwind')
- Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)
- Witchhazel (*Hamamelis vernalis* 'Sandra')
- Yellow groove bamboo (*Phyllostachys aureosulcata* 'Spectabilis')

**Perennials and groundcover**

