



where GUESTBOOK[®]

NEW YORK



In the incomparable and extraordinary city of New York, high above the towering structures of concrete, glass, bricks and limestone, are spaces of serenity, greenery and shelter for the body and soul. Contemporary heirs of Babylon's hanging gardens, these marvels of the urban world are tucked away from the public eye, yet still detectable when directing your gaze skyward. They belong to anonymous owners, aesthetes in love with both nature and the city, as well as to celebrities who appreciate their provisions of privacy. Often located on the loftiest level of renowned properties, most of these leafy retreats have never been open to the public, and they probably never will be. Born from the ingenuity of landscapers and architects, they're both beautiful and fully functional, blending indoor and outdoor realms to create places of sublime harmony.

Along with their innovative and alluring aesthetic, green roofs—the newest trend in garden development—are environmental treasures for the city and its inhabitants. With a greater tolerance for heat and cold than standard roofs, these forward-thinking solutions

provide excellent insulation and reduce energy consumption. Plus, they alleviate the impact of precipitation by absorbing rainwater.

The photographs of lush terrains on these pages, all featured in the book *New York Rooftop Gardens—Photographs by Charles de Vaivre* (teNeues, 2011), are an invitation to behold some of the city's most precious hidden jewels.

PAVED WITH WHITE MARBLE, THE GARDEN OUTSIDE A FIFTH AVENUE PENTHOUSE FLAUNTS BOXWOOD HEDGES THAT DEFINE ENTERTAINMENT AND LOUNGE AREAS. THE LANDSCAPE DESIGN ALLOWS FOR SEASONAL ROTATION OF CROPS; CABBAGES ARE IN FULL BLOOM IN AUTUMN. MONOGRAMMED CHAIRS BEAR THE OWNERS' INITIALS.