





An Oasis of Calm in TriBeCa

Above the maelstrom of traffic in and out of the Holland Tunnel there lies a forest of hydrangeas, birch trees, and weeping red maples. They spill out of ceramic pots and planters on a deck that may be the only oasis of calm in a busy district of former warehouses in New York's TriBeCa neighborhood. The deck, supporting the display of plants laid out by Plant Specialists, is of composite flooring the color of milk chocolate. Hurricane lanterns of filigreed ironwork add soft light after dark. The deck turns a corner on the northeast elevation, though not exactly at a right angle, as the familiar grid of Manhattan becomes a cobweb in this part of town.

The luxuriant blooms of white hydrangea are first viewed through large windows from a generously proportioned dining room. From here the terrace is a visual extension of the interior, designed by

LEFT: A comfortable seating arrangement suggests an outdoor living room decorated with red maples, gold-tipped arborvitae, and hydrangeas. The furniture is made of weatherproof synthetic resin. Individual hurricane lamps supplement low-voltage electric lighting at night.

Thomas Jayne Studio. Outside, there are two main dining areas: one is furnished to accommodate a group of six or eight; further on, closer to the apartment kitchen, there is a second area with a round table ideal for breakfast in the early morning sun.

Level changes between one dining area and another help to emphasize the shift from an informal area to one perfect for entertaining a larger

RIGHT: Light and sunshine pour in through multipaned windows that suggest a country house set in the middle of a garden. The table and chairs to the right create an area perfect for afternoon tea.

BELOW: Masses of pompoms, gold-tipped arborvitae, and hydrangeas line the approach to the outdoor living room in this lushly planted rooftop garden.







group. Finally, outside the bedroom on the north side of the building the level changes again, like a stage set, denoting the most private area where two lounge chairs invite the owners to enjoy a few quiet moments when, perhaps, no guests are expected.

OPPOSITE: Pompoms and juniper flank the dramatic entrance to this spacious garden. Despite its impressiveness, this garden is not complex and is easy to maintain. The hydrangeas last until winter and the evergreens all year long. Only fernspray hinoki among the hydrangeas might need to be replaced in the spring.

RIGHT: A favorite place for breakfast in warm weather features furniture that is made of hand-cast aluminum with an electrically sprayed powder coating, a process that ensures durability in outdoor conditions.

