



To The Trade

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Plant Specialists – Dagny and Tim Du Val started a landscaping business, Plant Specialists, in 1978. Since then their business has grown – today they incorporate landscape design, design supervision, landscape maintenance, interior plant rotation, Christmas decorations and the occasional cut flower arrangement. Plant Specialists has a full-time staff of fifty and is located in a block-long brick compound in Long Island City. The setting is remarkable – once a iron foundry, the heavy brick buildings have been transformed into greenhouses, offices and two private apartments with a phenomenal display terrace in between.

Though they design gardens all over the tri-borough area, ninety-nine percent of Plant Specialists' garden installations and maintenance contracts are Manhattan roof-top gardens. With over thirty years of experience implementing roof-top terraces, Plant Specialists are well versed in the science of creating a garden from the roof up. They will install everything – from the flooring, the lighting, the irrigation system and the plants to the ornament and the furniture. More importantly, they welcome working with designers – Plant Specialists will create elaborate presentation materials and will attend client meetings if desired.



Second only to their roof-top gardens, interior plant rotation is Plant Specialists' most popular service. They supply the plants, such as orchids, and arrange for a caretaker to water and maintain the plants once a week. If the orchid becomes tired looking, the caretaker will replace it with a fresh plant. This service is incredibly affordable, from \$15 to \$50 per week depending on the number of plants. The cost covers all pick-ups, deliveries, containers and maintenance. Notable clients include: the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Giorgio Armani and the Isamu Noguchi Museum. 42-25 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City; T: 718-392-9404.