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## Gardening with Nature at the New York Botanical Garden

Photographs by Larry Lederman, text by Todd A. Forrest, and a foreword by Jennifer Bernstein

**'The world needs us to slow down, pay attention, and consider how our actions impact all the life around us. Through gardening with nature, we can do just that!' – Jennifer Bernstein, from the forward**

A globally-admired cultural destination, the New York Botanical Garden rests within a sublime natural landscape. Rolling hills punctuated by rock outcroppings, an old-growth forest, and the dramatic gorge of the Bronx River are all incorporated into the institution's design and have been celebrated throughout its 130-year history. Today, NYBG is a proud leader in sustainable horticulture, embodying a critically important commitment to gardening with the natural world, as an integrated part of it. Offering unprecedented access to these expansive grounds, ***Gardening with Nature at the New York Botanical Garden*** shares the philosophy and techniques that allow this institution and its environment to thrive.

***Gardening with Nature*** explores NYBG's 'nature-first' approach to gardening through lush imagery and in-depth essays on the natural landscapes, plant collections, and display gardens that best reflect their ethos. In this superb visual tour, readers will witness the process of decay and regeneration in the Thain Family Forest, the carpet of millions of naturalized daffodils on Daffodil Hill, the vibrant azaleas sheltered by majestic trees and dramatic rocks in the Azalea Garden, and the recently installed Native Plant Garden, which blends sustainable methods with thoughtfully planted native flora.

With an elegant design and immersive imagery, ***Gardening With Nature*** is a lavish tribute to this iconic New York institution and a necessary call to action to care for the ecosystems that surround us. Captured in sumptuous photography by Larry Lederman, the featured gardens are prime examples of world-class horticulture with rich history, but the sustainable techniques and nature-friendly plants are available to any reader or at-home gardener interested in nurturing the natural world in a serious yet accessible way.

### Media Contact

**Caroline Jones**, Monacelli  
cjones@phaidon.com

**Monacelli**  
**A Phaidon Company**  
111 Broadway, Suite 301  
New York, NY 10006



## About the Authors

**Larry Lederman** has been photographing the landscape and trees at the New York Botanical Garden for more than a decade. He is the author of multiple books on public and private gardens, most recently *Du Pont Gardens of the Brandywine Valley* (2023) and *Garden Portraits: Experiences of Natural Beauty* (2020), both published by Monacelli.

**Todd A. Forrest** is Arthur Ross Vice President for Horticulture and Living Collections at the New York Botanical Garden

**Jennifer Bernstein** is CEO and The William C. Steere President of the New York Botanical Garden.

## About Monacelli

As a leading publisher of illustrated books for more than twenty-five years, **Monacelli** has challenged the conventions of publishing to produce provocative, inspiring, and essential titles. Founded in 1994 by Gianfranco Monacelli, the organization has released nearly 600 books on architecture, art, interior design, landscape and gardens, photography, and the applied arts. Monacelli's books have been made in collaboration with prominent practitioners and scholars ever since its inaugural title, the groundbreaking *S,M,L,XL* by Rem Koolhaas and Bruce Mau. In 2015, the applied arts imprint Monacelli Studio was launched, adding elevated books on art instruction, photography technique, and crafts to the publisher's roster. In 2020, Monacelli joined the Phaidon family of companies.

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