A LAVISHLY ILLUSTRATED BOOK DEVOTED TO ONE OF THE PREMIER BOTANICAL GARDENS OF THE WORLD

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

with principal photography by:
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Tour the Botanical Garden’s 250 landmark acres, including one million living plants from around the globe, and explore 115 years of history

A verdant jewel and National Historic Landmark in the heart of New York City, The New York Botanical Garden is cherished by area residents and visitors alike. With the publication of THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN (November; $50.00; Abrams, ISBN 0-8109-5744-2), one of the world’s great institutions devoted to plant science, horticulture, and education, and its remarkable history are presented in one magnificent volume—the only comprehensive history of any of the world’s botanical gardens. It is sure to inspire plant lovers, home gardeners, would-be horticulturists and scientists, and armchair naturalists.

Editor Gregory Long, President of The New York Botanical Garden, explains, “We are honored to present a book that lays out the rich history of this museum of plants and the contemporary renaissance that has revitalized its landscapes, gardens, facilities, and programs.” Through hundreds of superb new photographs commissioned especially for this book and reproductions of important botanical art from the Botanical Garden’s exceptional library, readers can tour the Garden’s 250 historic acres and learn from its many stunning plants and landscapes.

The lively text explores the origins and purposes of botanical gardens, from ancient times to the present, and provides fascinating insight into The New York Botanical Garden's horticultural and scientific accomplishments since its founding in 1891. Edited by Gregory Long and Anne Skillion, the book includes authoritative essays by Kim E. Tripp, Todd Forrest, Gregory Long, Barbara M. Thiers, and Susan Fraser. They detail the unparalleled gardens and collections, including 30,000 mature trees and a 50-acre tract of the original forest that once covered New York City. They also describe the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory’s “world of plants,” featuring tropical rain forests, palms of the Americas, and deserts of the Americas and Africa. And brought to life are the important research collections contained in the Steere Herbarium, with more than 7.2 million specimens, and in the Mertz Library, with one million items of botanical and horticultural interest that encompass 72 languages and nearly a mile of archival materials. Also presented are the Garden’s pacesetting educational programs, from continuing education courses
for adults to innovative science programming in two gardens designed especially for children and families.

The scope and excellence of the Botanical Garden’s programs in horticulture, science, and education are rivaled by few and exceeded by none. THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN beautifully captures the glorious history and current grandeur of the Garden.

The New York Botanical Garden is breathtaking in all seasons. In autumn, the entire Botanical Garden is ablaze with color across the landscape, gardens, and forest. Winter focuses on the landmark Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, where on November 18 the Holiday Train Show opens for its 15th year. This exhibition has become a New York City holiday favorite, delighting children with chugging trains and festive lights and enchanting their parents with New York landmarks crafted from twigs and bark rather than brick and steel. The Conservatory offers a tropical refuge throughout the winter months, culminating in The Orchid Show, which opens on February 24. In late March, the outdoor world reawakens across the entire Garden, commencing the most sumptuous, floriferous season with daffodils, magnolias, flowering cherries, crabapples, dogwoods, tulips, and peonies. Roses take the spotlight in June, while daylilies, waterlilies, and lotus offer their own kaleidoscope of color in July and August.

“The New York Botanical Garden exhibits nature at its best……This book documents what a treasured American and international institution [its founders’] dream child has become. Readers will discover the gardens and the collections of this romantic place with its picturesque, rolling, rocky, forested, and lake-strewn landscape…”

Interviews and electronic images are available.