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12 Spectacular Garden Walls and Atriums Worth Contemplating

By Keith Flamer

In the 1987 film *Wall Street*, Gordon Gekko said green is good. Okay, he actually said “Greed is good,” but he referenced money which is as green as it gets. Today, green is more humble, inclusive and communal, especially in lushly foliated grand entrances, lobbies, courtyards, rooftops and atriums.

Mesmerizing green gardens are usurping contemporary art—gaining popularity as an urban agriculture design aesthetic, breathing life into homes, condos, indoor work spaces, hotels, hospitals, etc. Since Adam & Eve, biophilic gardens have tempted humans, who naturally covet tranquility, inspiration, relaxation and

happiness. Studies show they even increase work productivity. Here are 12 feel-good green garden installations and atriums—the new art form. What better way to say, *Welcome?*

In this SOM-designed residential, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Daniel Romualdez, and Mathews Nielsen Landscape Architects all worked their magic on this unique lobby, which represents a peaceful homecoming as residents traverse a walkway between water pools en route to a floor-to-ceiling green wall, a brass table planter and the front desk.

252 East 57th Street (New York)



Photo Credit: Mark Benjamin 252 E. 57