

VERTICAL GARDENS



Patrick Blanc
Vertical garden architect

Patrick Blanc has always seen things differently: challenging the norm is a way of life - as his vertical gardens prove.

World-renowned landscape architect Patrick Blanc is a cult figure among botanists: he even has a newly discovered species - Begonia blancii - named after him. Over a career that spans almost 35 years, the renegade gardener has grown from a green-fingered student at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique into an environmental visionary, transforming the face of city buildings with his experimental greenscaping.

Challenging the conventional concept of a garden, Blanc's verdant patches grow vertically, carpeting the fronts of residential high rises, clinging to the sides of museums and springing up around the corners of concrete parking lots. From Istanbul to Seoul, Madrid to Miami, his blankets of foliage are inspiring eco-conscious architects - not only do they provide calming eye candy for stressed-out urban dwellers, they also act as insulators and oxygenators, moderating carbon levels. Surprisingly simple to create, the vertical gardens are composed of three parts: a metal frame, a PVC layer, and felt (where the seeds are sown). Light in weight, Blanc's bio architecture can be implemented on any wall of any size, and is not solely restricted to exterior surfaces. Leafy, living "walls" can be found inside the boardrooms of corporate offices and hallways of luxury hotels around the world, a recent commission at the Icon, Hong Kong, featured a swoosh of tropical vegetation in a futuristic lobby.

Does Blanc consider his lush canvases to be works of art? "To me, the most important result is that my work looks like nature, and nature is itself inherently artistic," he says in typically down to earth style. We can't wait to see where his vertical gardens will sprout up next.

verticalgardenpatrickblanc.com



DETAIL
Vertical gardens



PARIS
Quai Branly museum



URBAN NATIVE | LIFESTYLE

TOKYO
Costume National Aoyama Complex Wall



NEW YORK
Phyto Universe



KUWAIT CITY
Private villa



MIAMI
Art museum

