



**Michael Van
Valkenburgh**





Michael Van Valkenburgh

<https://www.mvvainc.com/staff.php?id=1>
<http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/people/faculty/vanvalkenburgh/>

He is the Charles Eliot Professor in Practice of Landscape Architecture at Harvard's Graduate School of Design. His career at the GSD began in 1982.

SCOPE OF CONCERN

Gardens, museums, parks of all sizes, campuses and urban design

DESIGN APPROACH

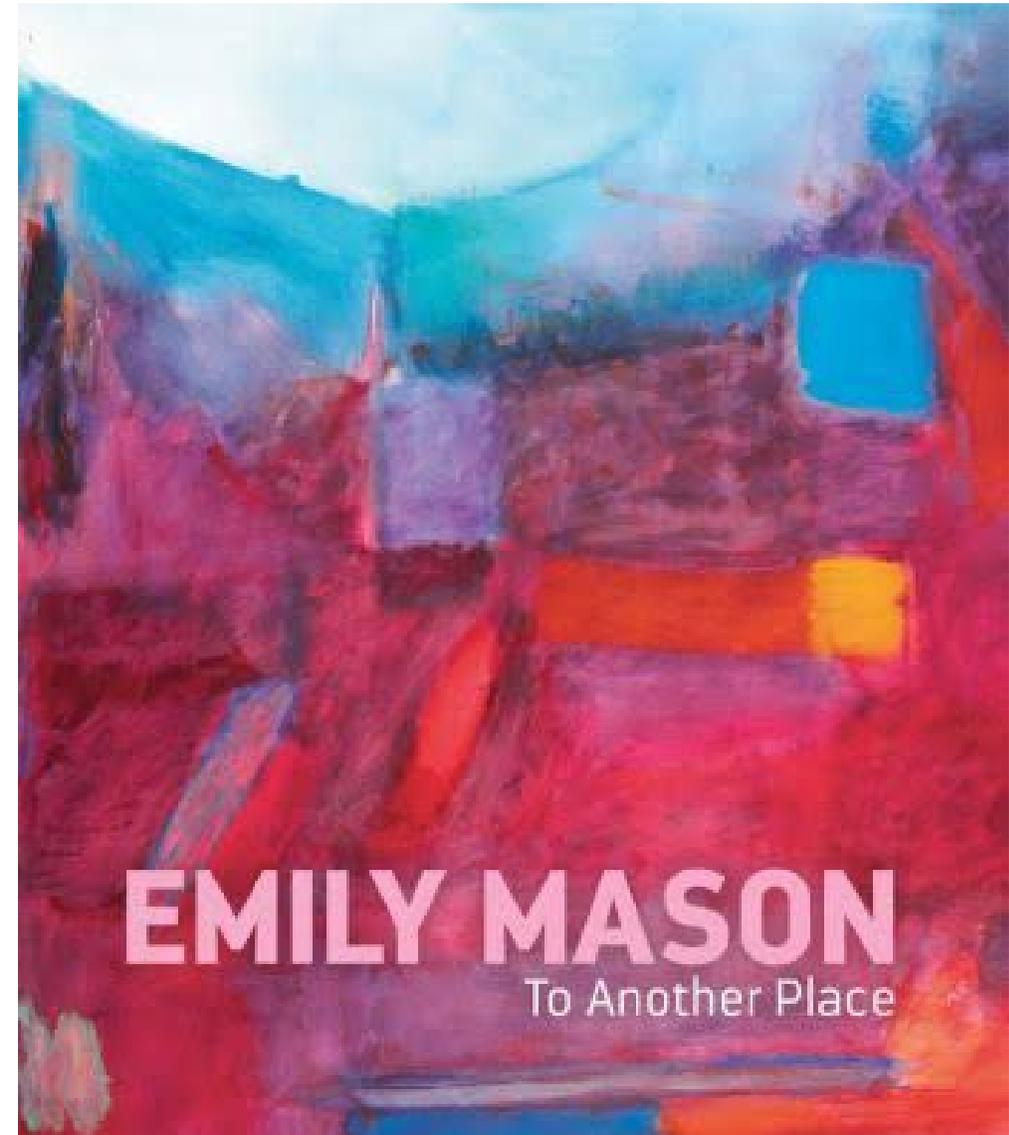
Materiality

Plant geek

Explains his work as exploration of the living qualities of the landscape medium.



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Teardrop Park, New York 1999-2006

SCOPE OF WORK

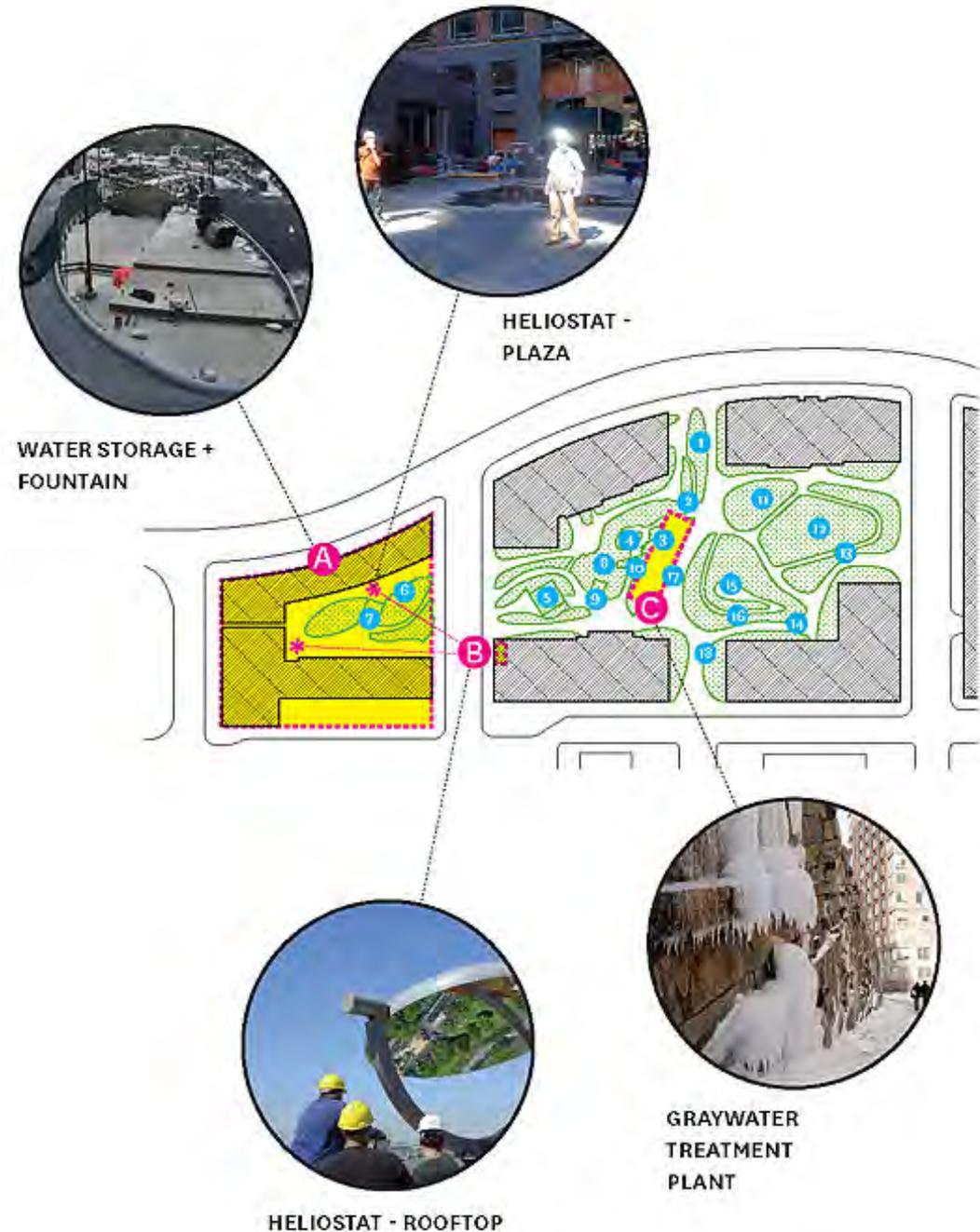
Shady public park surrounded by four apartment buildings, which development needed to be coordinated with.

1.8 acre public park in Lower Manhattan
Fully organic soil and maintenance regimes that don't rely on pesticides, herbicides or fungicides.
Children are the most important users
Included discussion with team which would maintain the park during design process.

Micro climate as defining condition

A nod to the craftsmanship

<https://www.mvvainc.com/project.php?id=2>





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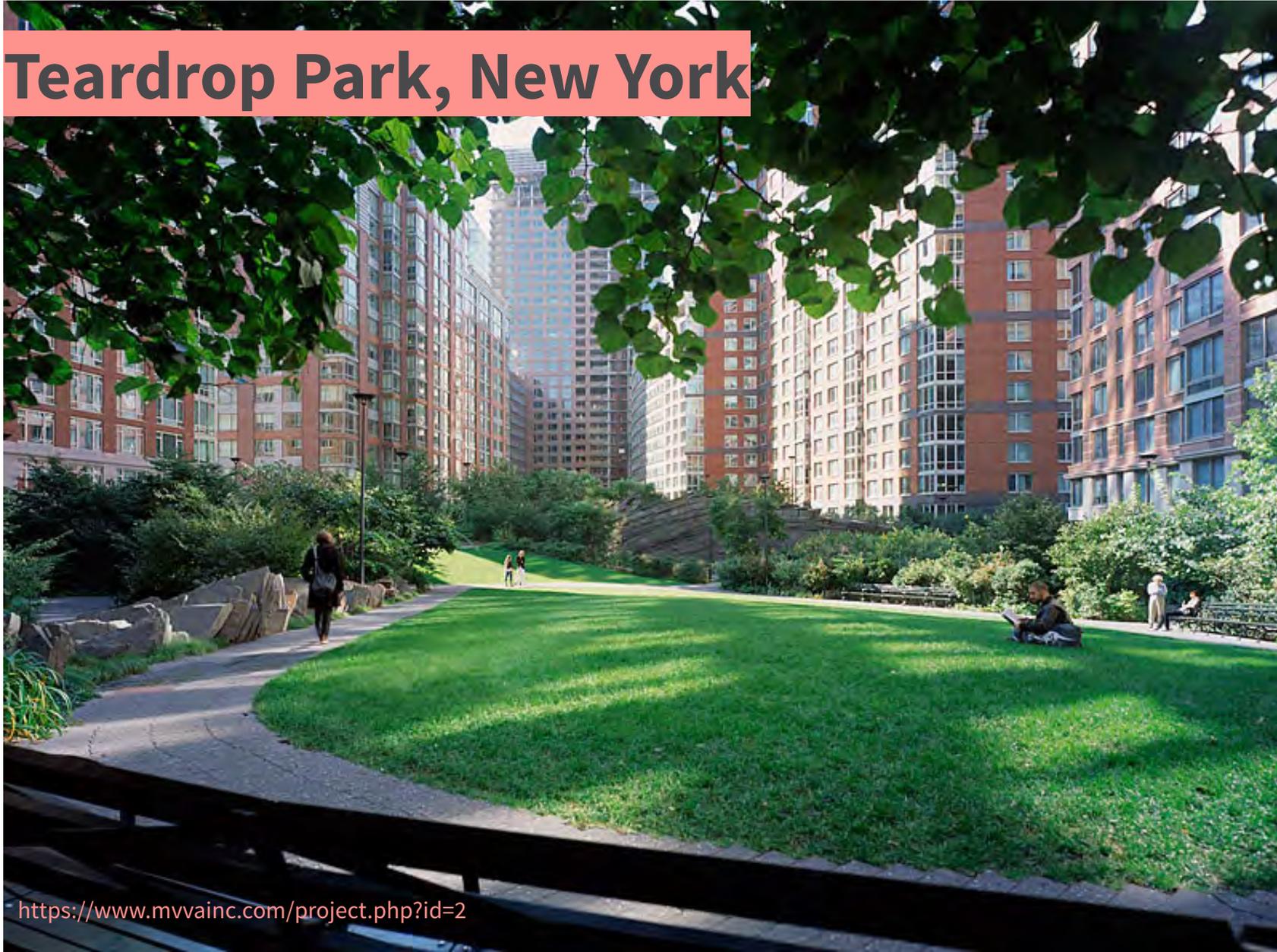
Teardrop Park, New York



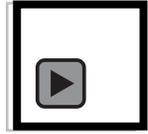
<https://www.mvva-inc.com/project.php?id=2>



Teardrop Park, New York



<https://www.mvvainc.com/project.php?id=2>



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Teardrop Park, New York



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<https://www.mvvainc.com/project.php?id=2>



Michael Van Valkenburg

Monk's Garden, Boston, MA 2013

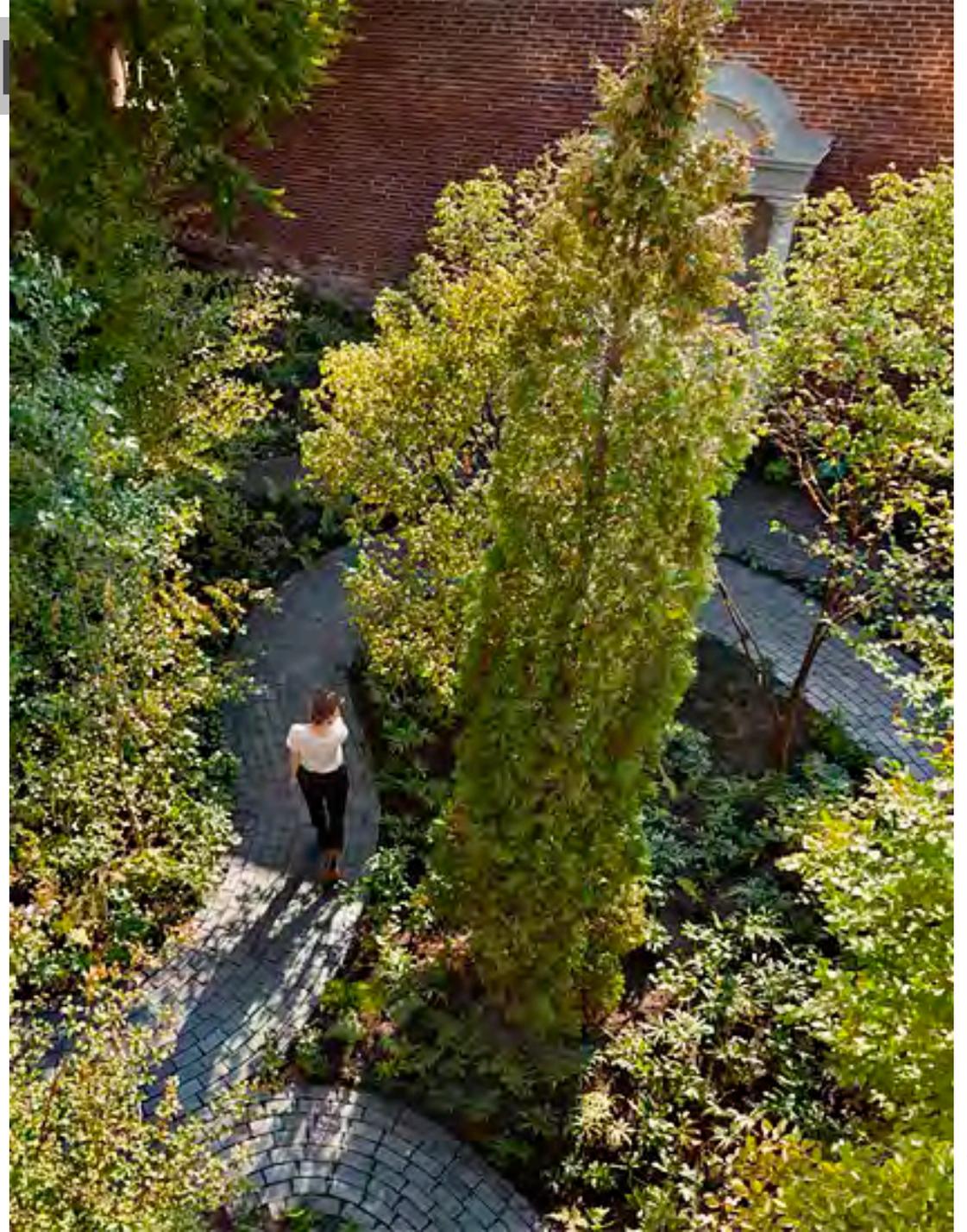
SCOPE OF WORK

Garden outside Isabella Steward Gardner
Museum

Painted a contemporary landscape context
illustrating the museum's meandering gallery
layout with the collection's rich colours and
textures.

Woodland dreamlike.

<https://www.mvvainc.com/project.php?id=104>



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Monk's Garden, Boston, MA



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Brooklyn Bridge Park Master Plan, Brooklyn, NY 2003-2005

Approximately 20 years project
(Pier 1-Pier 6).

Piers were not used for 35
years.

In total 85 acres and 1.3 miles
of waterfront.

Includes salvages materials
and repurposed existing
marine infrastructure.

Scale is heroic

Public opinions defined project

<https://www.mvvainc.com/project.php?id=86>



Unique by virtue of the complexity
of the site and the extraordinary
urban design tools put at the
disposal of the landscape
architect, the master plan offers
a model for integrated design and
transformative change inspired by
the found qualities of the site.

2015



Brooklyn Bridge Park Pier 1 2003-2010

SCOPE OF WORK

Seating area with views,
pathways, and spaces for
large and small events.

Repurposed materials.

New site topography was
created.

Excess stormwater is re-
used.





Michael Van Valkenburgh

Brooklyn Bridge Park Pier 1



<https://www.mvvinc.com/project.php?id=91>



Brooklyn Bridge Park Pier 1



<https://www.mvavinc.com/project.php?id=91>

Brooklyn Bridge Park Pier 1



<https://www.myva-inc.com/project.php?id=01>



Typology

Landscape architecture practice

see p7-8

1. **S** design as **S**ynthesis
2. **C** **C**ultivated expression
3. **A** landscape **A**nalysis
4. **P** **P**lural design
5. **E** **E**cological design
6. **S** **S**piritual landscapes



A close-up photograph of a seedling tray with several small green plants growing in individual compartments. The tray is made of a dark, textured material, likely peat or coconut coir. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green. The word "break" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font in the center of the image, flanked by two horizontal white lines.

break