In collaboration with the Conservancy’s horticulture team, Sheila Pepe’s My Neighbor’s Garden features uncommon heirloom vegetables and flowering vines that intermingle with Pepe’s crocheted structures, allowing a dynamic interaction between built materials and the natural world.

1. REFLECTING POOL

Begonia × hiemalis ‘Amstel Blitz’  
Abutilon ‘Linda Vista Peach’  
Zinnia Marylandica ‘Double Zahara Yellow’

2. SOUTHERN FOUNTAIN

Panicum elegans ‘Frosted Explosion’  
Petunia ‘Bee’s Knees’  
Pelargonium ‘Caliente Fire’

3. SEWARD

Ammi majus ‘Green Mist’  
Begonia × hybrida ‘Dragon Wing Pink’  
Capsicum annuum ‘Black Pearl’

4. CONKLING

Fuchsia ‘Ballerina Blau’  
Lobularia maritima ‘Easter Bonnet Violet’  
Agastache ‘Summer Glow’
Black-eyed Susan Vine
*Thunbergia alata* cultivars

This beautiful vine features pink, yellow, and orange flowers with dark throats. Its genus name honors Carl Peter Thunberg (1743-1828), a Swedish botanist. He traveled in South Africa and Japan and became a professor of botany at Uppsala University. The common name is derived from the poem the Ballad of Black-eyed Susan by John Gay. Susan goes aboard a ship in-dock to ask the sailors where her lover Sweet William, *Dianthus barbatus*, has gone. Black-eyed Susan is also a name given to other species of flowers in the genus *Rudbeckia*.

Giant Potato Creeper
*Solanum wendlandii*

This vigorous climber produces heads of lavender flowers. Native to Mexico, Central America, and northwestern South America, and has been widely introduced as an ornamental plant to other tropical locales, including the Caribbean, Africa, Nepal, Java, and many islands in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. There are no edible parts to this plant, but it does produce hooked barbs that help it climb.

Morning Glory
*Ipomoea tricolor* ‘Heavenly Blue’

This flowering vine is native to Mexico but can be frequently found throughout the five boroughs growing along chain link fences. Each flower blooms only for a day, opening in the morning and dropping by evening. This plant is a fast grower that attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. This cultivar is known for having some of the truest, blue flowers of the species.

Red Noodle Bean
*Vigna unguiculata* subsp. *sesquipedalis*

The red noodle bean is an annual climbing vine with large violet flowers and edible hanging pods, originally from Southeast Asia. The drooping, tender pods are long, reaching incredible lengths up to 40 inches. Long beans are an excellent source of vitamins and minerals, including vitamin C, vitamin A, folate, potassium, and iron, and many cultures commonly use them in stir fries.

Brad’s Atomic Grape Tomato
*Solanum lycopersicum* ‘Brad’s Atomic Grape’

American-bred tomato was introduced by Bradley Gates at Wild Boar Farms in California. Gates is known among tomato growers as the “Willy Wonka” of tomato breeding; he meticulously performs natural, open-pollination crosses to create new varieties with increased flavor and visual appeal. Gates specializes in multi-colored and striped varieties, such as Atomic grape tomatoes, and grows hundreds of tomato cultivars annually on his four-acre farm. Atomic grape tomatoes were released in the early 21st century and gained national recognition when they were awarded “Best in Show” at the National Heirloom Expo in 2017. These interesting and striped tomatoes are both beautiful and delicious.