



For Immediate Release

Asymptote Architecture Builds 166 Perry Street in New York City

New York, NY—Construction is nearly completed on Asymptote Architecture's first freestanding building in New York City, a 50,000-square-foot, eight-story, luxury condominium building at 166 Perry Street in the West Village. The building is bound by Perry Street and Charles Lane and located just steps from the Hudson River.

Manhattan's western edge at the West Village is currently in a state of dramatic change. Asymptote's design for a new building in this location uses as its impetus texture, luminosity, intimacy and elegance. 166 Perry Street is set against a transformational context constituted by the West Side Highway bicycle paths and the redeveloped riverfront recreational areas to the west of the building site, and the much slower, serene aspects of the residential neighborhoods to the east. The building, as envisioned by Asymptote, takes full advantage of and celebrates this vital and colorful urbanism that is not just particular to the West Village, but to New York City in general.

Each loft-like apartment suite at 166 Perry Street occupies a building corner and is encapsulated and contained within a discreetly and elegantly sculptured façade of cascading glass and highly polished steel. The angled glass panels form surfaces on the building's façade that enhance the visual effects of the surrounding environment. This glass treatment, and its specific deployment geometrically, as well as inherent qualities, allow for materialized and dematerialized reflections and images and qualities of light to prevail and form the ever-changing exterior look and interior ambience of the architecture. Here, the changes in light and atmosphere set against the angled surfaces of the building's exterior afford a building façade that is in a constant state of animation and movement, a gesture accompanying the musical and dynamic aspects of urban life in New York City.

Inside, the residences are each distinguished by unique, Asymptote-designed interiors, fixtures and built-in components that reinterpret the conventions of luxury living and dwelling. The inclusion of a honeycombed pattern interlayer in the east façade and an interior glass panel in the west façade mitigates transparency within the residences while assuring maximum light and views. At street level, 166 Perry Street enters into a subtle dialogue with the art world that is such a powerful aspect of New York life. One aspect of the building where this is made explicit is at the ground floor where a perforated, computer-generated pattern is laser cut in a white metal scrim, evoking not only the pointillist aesthetic of Roy Lichtenstein and other Pop artists of the 1960s, but also the sculptural works and environmental art of Richard Serra and Tony Smith. At the entrance, this scrim gives way to a recessed space of sensual, curvilinear design and artifacts influenced and in dialogue with environmental sculptures of light and space such as the work of Olafur Eliasson and James Turrell.

About Asymptote: Hani Rashid + Lise Anne Couture

Hani Rashid and Lise Anne Couture are leading architectural practitioners of their generation whose innovative work and academic contributions have received international acclaim. Since Asymptote's founding in 1989, the firm has been at the forefront of technological innovation in the field of architecture and design and garnered praise for visionary building designs, large-scale master plans, innovative interiors, art installations, virtual reality environments and object design.

In addition to the Azzano-San Paolo Master Plan Asymptote is currently working on a broad range of commissions at sites in the United States, Europe and Asia including the World Business Center Solomon Tower in Busan, South Korea, a skyscraper that will be among the tallest in Asia at 560m; a luxury residential building in New York city that is near completion; two contemporary art pavilions commissioned by The Guggenheim Foundation for the Cultural District of Saadiyat Island in Abu Dhabi; and The Yas Hotel, a luxury hotel integral to the new Formula 1 raceway circuit in Abu Dhabi that opened October 2009. In 2000 Hani Rashid represented the United States at the Venice Biennale of Architecture and in 2004 Hani Rashid and Lise Anne Couture were awarded the Frederick Kiesler Prize for Architecture and the Arts given in recognition of exceptional contributions to the progress and merging of the fields and disciplines of art and architecture.

For further information contact:

Eamon Tobin, Asymptote Architecture
press@asymptote.net
Phone: 212.343.7333
www.asymptote.net
twitter@ASYmptote_