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THE 5 RITZIEST REAL ESTATE TRENDS FOR 2015

BY ZACHARY KUSSIN



A flock of celebrated international architects are now dazzling the Manhattan skyline with their first-ever New York City residential projects. Japan's Tadao Ando, whose honors include the prestigious Pritzker and Kyoto prizes, makes his Gotham debut with 152 Elizabeth St., which will soon launch sales. Half-floor apartments at this seven-unit condominium will start at \$5.9 million, with full-floors starting at \$15 million.

The Iraqi-born Zaha Hadid — another Pritzker recipient — designed 520 W. 28th St. along the High Line.

A sinuous glassy tower with cantilevered balconies, its eagerly awaited debut in 2016 will reportedly offer 39 units priced from \$4.59 million to \$35 million. Meanwhile, Britain's AIA Award-winning David Chipperfield Architects (known for rebuilding the Neues Museum in Berlin) was tapped to design 16 W. 40th St. (prices not yet available), facing Bryant Park.

And Brazil's multi-award-winner Isay Weinfeld — beloved for his Fasano Las Piedras Hotel in posh Punta del Este, Uruguay — lends his touch to Jardim at 527 W. 27th St., where sales of the 36 units will also soon begin (prices not yet available). Amenities in this block-through development include a private driveway, landscaped gardens and a private pool.