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Luxury

YOU CAN LIVE IN A VASE OF ALVAR AALTO, IN NEW YORK

Luxury residence on the Billionaire Row inspired by the MoMA icon

by Alessandra Baldini | NEW YORK | 03 October 2018

Living in a vase by Alvar Aalto: the dream of Alice in Wonderland with a wallet full of dollars and a passion for contemporary design. In Manhattan, at the eastern end of the so-called “Billionaire Row” on 57th Street, a skyscraper has been built whose curvilinear forms evoke those of the iconic vessel of the MoMA. 252 East 57, this is the name of the new tower of the World Wide group in collaboration with Rose Associates, stands at the intersection of the Sutton Place and Upper East side neighborhoods. Inside, 93 luxury condominiums on 65 floors with prices from 4.5 million dollars to almost 30 million. The palace of 213 meters destined to further change the north-south Manhattan skyline, it was designed by the studio Skidmore Owings Merrill (SOM), which has internationally, among others, the tallest building in the world (the Burj Khalifa Dubai) and, in London, 201 Bishopsgate and the 33 floors of Broad Gate.

“The starting point was the Aalto vase: it allowed us to create a design that uses glass curves in an innovative way like never before in a residential build-

ing,” said architect Roger Duffy who coordinated the project. The property includes a 22-meter swimming pool, spa and private club on the 34th floor with lounge, billiards and conference room, cinema, gym, yoga and Pilates studio, a library curated by the famous Strand bookshop and two “guest suits” for guests. The apartments start on the 36th floor and reach the 29.75 million penthouse: they are signed by the famous interior designer Daniel Romualdez.

High ceilings, 252 East 57 is the latest addition to a series of very new and expensive “breadsticks” skyscrapers lined up on 57th Street two blocks south from Central Park: the super-rich people of the world, Middle Eastern, Russian, Chinese, live there often. South Americans. At 432 Park Avenue there is the building designed by Rafael Viñoly in which the 96th floor apartment, sold for 95 million dollars, became in 2014 the highest residence in the Western world, while on the west side of the 57th “The Bend” may soon arise: the project of the architectural firm Oiio has the ambition to be the “longest” in the world thanks to a “U” design.