

NYMag.com

March 10, 2016

4,595,522 Unique Monthly Visitors

<http://nymag.com/thecut/2016/03/design-tour-11-howard-manhattan-house.html>



Touring New Projects With Two New York Design Stars



A room in the Manhattan House, which has been undergoing renovations since 2015. Photo: Courtesy of Manhattan House.

The other day, I visited 11 Howard, a new hotel, with its creative director, Anda Andrei, and a day later the landmark Manhattan House, refreshed by Vicente Wolf. Each designer gave me a personal tour.



Anda Andrei, who is the president of Anda Andrei Design, also happens to be the creative director of Soho's new 11 Howard hotel. Andrei, pictured here in front of the lobby sculpture by Danish studio Space Copenhagen, which designed the bespoke furniture for the hotel as well. After posing with the sculpture, we started our tour of what had formerly been the site of the Soho Holiday Inn.



During my tour, Andrei's team was still putting the finishing touches on the lobby — which is seen completed here in a rendering. "Instead of a light fixture," Andrei says, pointing to the ceiling, "we are going to hang this 1976 Calder mobile." And since Aby Rosen is the developer of this property, that would seem the natural thing to do. Project architects, Beyer Blinder Belle, along with Space Copenhagen have insured that the design program "has a certain modesty and honesty and lightness," Andrei says.



When I admired this great-looking 1960s Gio Ponti chair in the library, Andrei instructed me: "Pick it up! Feel how light it is," before demonstrating the point with one finger. For the past three decades, until 2013, Andrei worked with hotelier Ian Schrager, working on iconic properties including the Delano (where she collaborated with Philippe Starck), the Gramercy Hotel (where she worked with Julian Schnabel), and the Gramercy Park Condos (which had her working closely with John Pawson).



As we made our way up this staircase leading to the second floor and the hotel's lounge, the Blond, we took a walk through the library. Guests will want to spend time working or relaxing in the great room where three Hiroshi Sugimoto photographs are but some of the featured artworks.



Each of the 221 guest rooms have 11-foot-high ceilings and furniture designed by Space Copenhagen. “I wanted the feeling of the hotel to appeal to young people, but also be a place where their parents would like to stay,” Andrei says. “I wanted to create an instant classic.”



A rendering of the exterior of 11 Howard opening in April. Andrei is also masterminding the redesign of Asbury Park under iStar, which includes over 20 residential, hotel, and mixed-use projects. Stay tuned for more.