

SOCIAL LIFE

A black and white close-up portrait of Natalie Portman. Her hair is styled in a high, elegant updo with a long, thin, curved strand of hair falling over her right shoulder. She is wearing a delicate, multi-strand necklace. The background is a plain, light color.

**NATALIE
PORTMAN**

FASHION, BEAUTY, TRAVEL, ART
EXCLUSIVE GALA PHOTOS

THE STACK

A Striking Addition to New York City's Skyline



Architects rendering of The Stack



A module is lowered onto The Stack

BY ELIZABETH DARWEN

The Stack has finished stacking. After a short delay, New York City's first modular apartment building has finally taken shape as the last of the modules were delivered to the construction site in Inwood, Manhattan.

"It's so new, nothing like this has been done before in Manhattan," says developer and contractor Jeffrey M. Brown.

This fall residents can move into the modern, pre-fabricated building whose units boast high ceilings, stainless steel appliances, and custom kitchens.

An added bonus to the Stack is the art installation-like process that captivated the neighborhood. Every day four new modules were fitted into place, and the building took shape before residents' eyes.

"The neighbors were watching from the sidewalk, the kids were watching from the school across the street, and people were watching from cars," reports Jeffrey. "In the first 10 days, we put together five out of seven floors, all of which were erected by an eight-man construction crew and a single crane."

Neighbors and architecture buffs will soon be able to view the process online, as the developer prepares to launch the building's website.

The 38,000-square-foot concrete-and-steel residential and retail building is the first of its kind to be built in New York City and was manufactured entirely off-site by De-Luxe Building Systems in Berwick, Penn. It was shipped as 56 separate modules, which now comprise the seven-story complex of 28 individual apartments, with 4,000 square feet of retail and commercial space on the first floor.

"This project exemplifies the opportunity to create an exciting design for living while enjoying the benefits and efficiencies of controlled, offsite fabrication. As builders and developers, we are intrigued with this methodology and its application on a multitude of new projects," adds Jeffrey.

Jeffrey, CEO of Brown Hill Development, and Kim Frank, co-developer and owner of real estate finance firm MCA, have a combined 50 years of industry experience and have collaborated on various innovative development projects, including the Porter House in New York's Meatpacking District.

The Stack
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