

This timelapse of the new Herzog & de Meuron skyscraper in NYC takes us to new heights

Sabrina Syed | June 6, 2017

Herzog & de Meuron have completed construction of their latest project, a luxury residential skyscraper on Leonard Street 56, in New York City. Conceived as a pile of individual stacked houses, resembling a Tenga tower, the building is the tallest in the Tribeca neighborhood. With its tall, thin silhouette, 56 Leonard Street is the latest addition to a number of contemporary skyscrapers that have emerged on the Manhattan skyline.

To create the pixelated form of the tower, it was designed from the inside out. Herzog & de Meuron treated each individual room as a “pixel”, grouping them floor by floor. To “pixelar” rooms and parts of the program in groups, their accommodation was united to conform the final volume and the outer shape of the tower. The assembly strategy also creates terraces and balconies, and from within, it is said that the experience is like entering a series of large windows. Local construction methods were considered to create variant slabs that create corners, cantilevers, and balconies. The personalized nature of the exposed concrete slabs inside the tower managed to make only 5 of the 145 apartments repeated, without there being two in the same league.

The design and planning of 56 Leonard began in 2006, with construction starting in 2008. The project was delayed when its developer Alexico Group was hit by the recession and could not cover the costs of the tower. The work began again in 2012 and was expected to be completed by 2016. The pixelated form of the tower is the latest in a series of iterations explored by various architecture offices around the world, also seen in works by Bjarke Ingels and Ole Scheeren .

Spanish translated by Google Translate.

