

Spatial Relations

Five women in real estate reveal the best spots in town.

by RACHEL BOWIE
photographs by MICHAEL FILONOW



VERONICA MAINETTI

Title: Managing director, US activities, Sorgente Group (sorgentegroup.com)

How she got her start: Mainetti came to New York to pursue a master's degree in architectural design. At the same time, the Sorgente Group's investors were looking to expand and diversify their presence in New York's real estate market. Mainetti took the job, spearheading the company's plan to further develop US operations.

All in the family: "My great-grandfather, Luigi, used to build load-bearing frames for skyscrapers in New York City, and my grandfather was a mechanical engineer who specialized in commercial buildings. My father's passion started with ground-up development, which 20 years later, led him to form the Sorgente Group. Our company specializes in the development and management of real estate funds—funds that are mainly invested in historic and trophy properties."

Favorite spot: 32–34 Greene Street. "It's my favorite spot because it's the site of my first restoration project in New York. I have a great passion for cast-iron buildings. What better place to admire them than Greene Street, which has the biggest concentration of cast-iron buildings in the world?"

Her focus: Historic and trophy buildings. "I truly believe that properties that have historical and architectural value maintain their worth regardless of where the economy stands."

Why New York: "The collection of such incredible styles and types of architecture. You can't find it anywhere else in the world."

Most memorable deal: "Closing the last acquisition of the Flatiron Building. It made the Sorgente Group the majority owners of one of the most-recognized landmarks in the world."