# LUXURYLETTER AUGUST, 2005

luxuryletter.com

#### The up-to-the-minute report on Manhattan's Downtown Luxury Real Estate market

Other Real Estate Reports provide information that may not be current enough to fully assess the state of the market: we offer an alternative. We are brokers working in the New York Luxury Residential Real Estate market on a daily basis, giving you an insider's perspective to understanding the market as it is...today. While other reports focus on average, we choose to focus on luxury.

Presented by: the LUXURYLOFT team Leonard Steinberg, Hervé Senequier, Lois Planco & Samantha Behringer







497 Greenwich Ave.

115 Fourth Avenue

40 West 13th Street

## LUXURY HEADLINES - AUGUST 1, 2005

### BUBBLE-B.S? SHOW ME THE BUBBLE!!!!

So, after all the brilliant philosophizing about the BUBBLE, there appears to be absolutely no tangible indication (so far) of any bubble-popping market behavior. In fact, quite the contrary.....all of a sudden we are seeing more and more properties with asking prices hovering around the \$ 2,000/sf mark.....this just a few months after \$1,000/sf pricing appeared average. The norm for condominiums with a doorman in mint, move-in condition is around \$ 1,250/sf, and up, and that keeps rising. The biggest factor we feel needs some time to play out is the MORTGAGE RATE-FACTOR: what will be the full impact of a more notable rise in interest rates and how will that affect the adjustable-rate mortgage buyers and those in contract to buy properties that will close in 12-18 months? Also, what will happen to the FLIPPER-INVESTORS (the '30-percenters", or 30% of buyers right now) if when they are ready to close and sell in the new buildings, the market hasn't risen enough to cover their closing costs...

### CHECK OUT OUR NEW SERVICE-SITE: LUXURY CONNECT. COM

Who has the time to shop one showroom after the other? How do you find the best furniture, fixtures, etc? How do you find a quality contractor? How do you know the level of quality is your kind of quality....... www.luxuryconnect.com Hundreds of useful website links to make your life easier, better....now that's luxury!

# RENOVATING? TRY LUXE CONSULTING......and do it RIGHT! Often when renovating, luxury homeowners make the mistake of spending too much on items that have little or no

re-sale value. ....and often overlook things that can add tremendous value to their property (and lives).

Often, some architects and designers give bad advice that adds little or no value to your property. If you are thinking about renovating your home, consult with us: we will meet with you and give you a breakdown of items that we know from experience add value to your property, while providing years of enjoyment too....we will also provide some resources to buy many of these features at discounted prices. Our consultation involves a fee, that we are happy to re-imburse should you ever decide to sell through us. Call: (917)385-0565 to schedule an appointment.

## Prudential Douglas Elliman

#### AUGUST 2005 FEATURED PROPERTIES

PRIME GOLD COAST GREENWICH VILLAGE TOWNHOUSE - 6 EAST 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET
Superb original details abound in this remarkable, wide townhouse located steps off 5th Avenue in the heart of the Gold Coast of Greenwich Village. Currently configured as an owners triplex with multiple offices and rental apartments, this house boasts the additional distinction of being able to be delivered completely vacant if so desired. Seldom. If ever, does the opportunity arise to buy a property of this caliber. \$ 10million WEB ID#: 659212 →

#### GREENWICH VILLAGE GOLDCOAST FULL FLOOR -40 West 13th St.





Greenwich Village "Gold Coast" this 3 bedroom loft is a unique opportunity to own what qualifies as Prime Real Estate. The elevator opens into the private full floor, 3,000 square feet in size: Soaring ceilings, hardwood floors & large windows with tranquil, treed exposures are the 'bones'....the extraordinary amenities & millwork details enhance the space to its best. An enormous glass-encased wine cellar is a Connoisseur's dream; A superb Boffi kitchen is its perfect companion. \$ 3,5 million

#### SOHO LUXURY RENTAL- 497 Greenwich Ave.



Superb, newly renovated 2-3bedroom ultra-Luxe apartment in full-service building just West of Soho...splendid in every way. \$ 12,000/month Available September 1st, 2005.

#### **GIVE ME PARK AVENUE!**



Prime 6-room apartment awaits your touch to return it to its former glory. Showings begin September 15, 2005. 1045 Park Avenue

#### 126 WEST 22<sup>nd</sup> STREET - 9S



Super-Chic 2,200sf South-facing Loft in gorgeous Chelsea Pre-War Condo magnificently renovated to true perfection. Central Air,Low monthlies and magnificent millwork. \$ 2,25m

#### LOWER FIFTH AVENUE FABULOUS! - One Fifth Avenue.





#<u>10d</u>



WEB ID# 568918



The best 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom layout in the building one of Lower Fifth Avenue's Landmark properties. Located on West corner, with superb exposures North up Fifth Ave, and West, this elegant home awaits your touch to transform it into the prize apartment it can be. Original windows are some of the pre-war details that sets this apart from all others.

REDUCED! \$1,5million

For more information on these properties, please contact: Leonard Steinberg Tel: (212)727-6164

THE AUGUST 1, 2005 REPORT: Our 5 classifications of luxury property:

### **M////LUXE**

Although smaller, luxury is not compromised, priced between \$1 and 2 million.

# of properties: 1285

Average price: \$ 1,457m (\$968/sf) DOWN SLIGHTLY

Average Size: 1,509sf

Factoids: \* Pricing slightly lower, sizing down. # of units traded up.

## MIDILUXE

Mid-sized luxury properties, priced between \$ 2million and \$4million

# of properties: 95\*\*\*

Average price: \$ 2,723 million (\$1,228/sf) UP

Average Size: 2,226sf

Factoids: \*Mostly new conversions and new developments, delivered in mint condition

\*Fewer sales

## **ULTRALUXE**

Larger, luxurious properties priced between \$ 4million and \$5million

# of properties: 6 \*\*\* DOWN SIGNIFICANTLY

Average price: \$ 4,551million (\$1,258/sf) DOWN SIGNIFICANTLY

Average size: 3,624sf DOWN Factoids: \* 78% Condominium

\* Significantly fewer sales sways averages downwards.....traditional Summer activity

## **MEGALUXE**

Large, exceptional properties, priced over \$ 5million. # of properties: 7\*\*\* (DOWN SIGNIFICANATLY)

Average price: \$ 8,397 million (\$ 2,432/sf) UP SIGNIFICANTLY

Average size: 3,454sf (excluding outdoor space)

Factoids: \* 100% Condominium

\* Averages swayed upwards by \$ 20million 165 Charles Street penthouse.

## HOUSELUXE

Large, Single family townhouses are a rare breed in the Downtown market.

# of properties: 14

Average price: \$ 4.28million
Average width: 22 feet

Factoids: LOW INVENTORY HAS RESULTED IN SOME ARTIFICIALLY INFLATED SALE PRICES. Several over-

priced houses that sat on the Market for many months, have gone to contract.

## Prudential Douglas Elliman

## **LUXURY** *HOTSPOTS*

APPLE STORE: The new APPLE mini-super-store opens in the FLATIRON DISTRICT, located on Fifth Avenue between 18th and 19th Street.....

JOHN VARVATOS: Opening a flagship retail store in the old Ferragamo space located at 124 Spring Street.....certainly better exposure that the current Mercer Street location.

## LUXURY FINDS

This has to be the first real revolution in bathroom design...... the ultimate home spa......the WETSPA.



An innovative, contemporary, frameless, glass multifunctional shower environment. Aromatherapy, fibre optic chromatherapy, steam, Hydromassage and stereo surround sound....... Available through Davis & Warshow. Price: if you have to ask, you can't afford it....

....for more resources, check out: www.luxuryconnect.com

# the**LUXURYLOFT**team REAL ESTATE SOLUTIONS



Leonard Steinberg telephone: (212)727-6164 Hervé Senequier telephone: (212)727-6162

e-mail: <u>Isteinberg@elliman.com</u>

Leonard Steinberg & Hervé Senequier, Samantha Behringer & Lois Planco are consistently Douglas Elliman's and the Industry's leading brokers specializing in the Downtown Luxury Real Estate Market.... highly regarded by both their peers and their clientele. For more information about our unique full service brokerage, view: <a href="www.luxuryloft.com">www.luxuryloft.com</a> .......or call (212)727-6164 to learn how you can benefit from our REAL ESTATE SOLUTIONS

\*\*\*While every effort has been made to provide accurate, up-to-the minute information based on closed and contract-signed transactions, the information is provided subject to errors, omissions and changes. Our criteria for luxury may be different to other's. Some prices are estimates only as they have not closed yet. For 100% accurate information, please consult a legal professional to perform the necessary due diligence.