



November 18, 2009

## The Best New Buildings of the Decade!

With Curbed's new look and all, we figured what better time to look into...the past. We're not ready to close the book on the decade just yet—a dizzying era that gave us wonders such as the real estate boom (born: 2001, pronounced dead: Oct. 1, 2008) and, wouldn't you know it, Curbed itself! So we're rolling out a retrospective series covering all types of '00s insanity. **Top of the Aughts** stories will occasionally pop up through the end of the year, but this first is the biggie.



It's no secret we've been planning a look at the decade's best new additions to the New York City built environment. We heard from Curbed readers and **consulted a large panel of well known local architects, architecture critics, and experts.** We tallied the votes, wrestled with the order, then cast this list. Disagree with the selections? The order? Did we leave something out? Make your voice heard in the comments. And now, without further ado...

### 1) **The Standard**

**Location:** 848 Washington Street, Meatpacking District

**Architects:** Todd Schliemann/Polshek Partnership, Roman & Williams (interiors)

**Year completed:** 2009

**The skinny:** 337 rooms, 19 stories, 4 bars and restaurants (at last count), 2 concrete stilts and 1 quote-unquote scandal's worth of angled glass and steel peering out over the Hudson River, all while coolly lapdancing over the High Line. An awe-inspiring balancing act that morphs into an even more striking sight once the sun goes down and the lights come up in the hotel rooms and on the High Line. Even the fire escape is a stunner. André Balazs FTW!



"Showed you could be big, gutsy and still be loved. Doesn't 'fit in' in some castrated faux historical way, yet doesn't bludgeon the neighbors with its strutting design either. And Balazs gets points for creating the urban legend that guests strip for West Side Highway drivers and High Line peeping Toms."—*James Russell*

[http://curbed.com/archives/2009/11/18/the\\_best\\_new\\_buildings\\_of\\_the\\_decade.php#mor](http://curbed.com/archives/2009/11/18/the_best_new_buildings_of_the_decade.php#more)

"Perfect. Jealous. Biergarten. (Though blood has been spilled in our office debating the Meatpacking warehouse replica café at its base...)"—*FLAnk*

"Anything but typical.. A hotel where every room has a view, and—famously—can be viewed, is rare and special. New places to eat and drink go along with some of the best places to sleep, or whatever, in the City. You feel like you are on the High Line even when rain, sleet or, eventually, snow keep you inside and warm."—*Rick Bell*

"Those concrete stilts are the best pair of gams in town."—*Max Abelson*

And now, to salute the champion of the decade, **bonus glamor shots!**

