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feng shui



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Chester Higgins Jr./The New York Times

WELL-WISHER Judith Wendell, a feng shui practitioner, performs a blessing at the construction site of the Baccarat Hotel and Residences, a 46-story tower going up at 20 West 53rd Street.

By MICHELLE HIGGINS Published: October 12, 2012

THREE stories beneath West 53rd Street, four crystals are buried in the recently poured foundation walls of the Baccarat Hotel and Residences, a 46-story tower across from the Museum of Modern Art.

Dotted with red resin fingerprints - a mixture of high-proof alcohol, cinnabar and realgar - to impart well-being and good intentions, the crystals were placed at the four corners under the direction of a feng shui consultant, Judith Wendell. Her firm, Sacred Currents, started out working with small businesses and apartment dwellers and is now taking on major corporations, as real estate developers and designers embrace feng shui, the Asian belief system, at least in part to attract foreign buyers. "With the influx of the Asian market," she said, "I've been getting larger projects."

At the Baccarat, Ms. Wendell was hired to work with the architects and designers to ensure that chi, or cosmic energy, flows freely and brings good fortune to the residents, developers and investors alike. To ensure that the structure is being built in the most harmonious way possible from the ground up, she chose an auspicious date in late July to perform a ground-blessing ceremony. [read more...](#)

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