

Seven World Trade Center

New York, NY



While the design team sought to create a building of dignity and presence to herald the spirit of a new beginning at Ground Zero, we had the additional challenge of how to deal with a building whose 80's base needed to hide transformer vaults. The solution was a shimmering light and metal screen wall, and a lobby, inserted into it with an illuminated ceiling which changes color throughout the evening. The elegant and mysteriously shimmering base belies the considerable technical challenges overcome to create a custom light art-piece that wraps around an entire city block.

Lighting Designer: Francesca Bettridge, Michael Hennes, Mitul Parekh, Cline Bettridge Bernstein Lighting Design

Lighting Designer: Richard Kress, James Carpenter Design Associates Inc.

Architect: Chris Cooper, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill LLP

Architect: James Carpenter, James Carpenter Design Associates Inc.

Project Owner: Larry Silverstein, Silverstein Properties

Photographer: David Sundberg, Esto Photography



From its genesis, Seven World Trade Center was an extraordinary experience requiring a rare level of collaboration between the architects, designers, client, and manufacturers. The team was always very conscious of the profound responsibility that went into erecting the first building on the post-9/11 site and was dedicated to ensuring its significance, beauty and reverence.

—Francesca Bettridge, Lighting Designer

The lighting takes a blank and forbidding wall and turns it into an interactive sculpture.

—Joan Blumenfeld

