

THE 69<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL *International Best-Dressed List* 2008

WHICH OBAMA MADE IT? AND WHO ARE THE BEST-DRESSED MEN AND WOMEN IN THE WORLD? >>>

# VANITY FAIR

THE *Style* ISSUE

## Going Dutch in Tribeca

**B**en van Berkel, of the Dutch design firm UNStudio, thinks of architecture in terms of fashion. Clothing design is more immediate, allowing innovative ideas to take hold more quickly, says van Berkel, who was a student of Zaha Hadid's and is best known for his Möbius House, part of a 1999 exhibition at New York's Museum of Modern Art. Van Berkel's return to Manhattan is **Five Franklin Place**, a residential tower in Tribeca, set to be completed in late 2009. The building's façade is adorned with undulating black metal bands, which he likens to "decorative seams and pleats." The signature bands torque out to form balconies and, when they hug the building, serve as sunscreens for the glass-walled apartments. The architect's goal was to give the building "an etched effect and curvilinear softness" that allows it to relate to the old cast-iron buildings of Tribeca.

—MATT TYRNAUER

A rendering of Ben van Berkel's Five Franklin Place.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GASTON MACONHILL IDEAS/ARTISTS FOR VANITY FAIR

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