

## Hadid, Rogers and Foster vie for prize New York skyscraper

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Zaha Hadid, Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners and Foster + Partners have been named on an extraordinary shortlist in the competition to design a new skyscraper in New York.

The trio have been invited to vie for the scheme, against Christian de Portzamparc, Jean Nouvel, Herzog & de Meuron, Maki and Associates, OMA/Rem Koolhaas, Richard Meier, Renzo Piano and KPF.

The project for developer L&L Holding Co, which will replace the 1957 Khan & Jacobs' 'wedding cake' at 425 Park Avenue, will be close to Mies van der Rohe's Seagram building. Norman Foster had previously drawn up plans for a 214m-tall tower behind the landmark – proposals which have since stalled (AJ 16.01.2006).

David Levinson, chairman of L&L Holding, said: 'It's not often that you get a vacant building on Park Avenue and it's the first time that's happened in 50 years.'

He added: 'There is no way to make the current building sustainable and no environmentally-friendly, energy-efficient way to create the grand spaces of collaboration that impact the business culture, and we have learned that is what many tenants are looking for.'

According to Levinson says both demolition of the existing building and construction will start in 2015, with completion due in 2017.

A winner of the contest will be announced in October.