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Crown mogul planning ritzy West Side lounge

By Andy Wang

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Sean Largotta will open a sophisticated rooftop lounge for the over-35 crowd at the Hotel Hugo.
Photo: Zandy Mangold

The restaurant mogul behind Crown is looking to class up downtown nightlife. Crown Group Hospitality managing partner Sean Largotta, who runs scene-intensive, celebrity-friendly restaurants — including Crown, The Lion and Bill's Food & Drink — is opening a rooftop lounge at the new Hotel Hugo at 525 Greenwich St., The Post has learned. The lounge, to be called Bar Hugo, will be available for private events in April and should officially open in May, according to Largotta, who will target the space at the after-work and after-dinner crowds as much as late-night revelers. The two-story, nearly 6,000-square-foot venue will be an alternative to eardrum-shattering bottle-service clubs with unruly velvet-roped lines, Largotta said. "We saw it three or four years ago at the Lion," Largotta noted. "Our customer base had no place to go after dinner. I haven't been to many places where it's a sprinkle of art and fashion and a 35-and-over crowd and media people that wasn't a fashion party. That's what was missing." From its West Side location, Bar Hugo will offer unobstructed downtown and Hudson River views through retractable glass walls. "You can have sunset cocktails or even a meal here," Largotta said recently. "It's classier than just having bottle service." The neighborhood, once an industrial area associated with UPS and FedEx facilities, is known for creative-minded businesses, including Viacom, New York magazine and Warby Parker. The area is also a hotbed of residential development. Extell Development recently submitted plans for a 22-story building at 68 Charlton St., and developer Michael Shvo purchased the 100 Varick St. site.