

# REAL ESTATE WEEKLY

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## *Luxury rental leading renaissance in Hartford*

**Wonder Works Construction Corp.** has made its mark on downtown Hartford with luxury rental **Spectra**.

The 12-story, 190-unit residence at **5 Constitution Place** opened for leasing in mid-2015 as part of a surge of downtown development that has turned former office buildings and hotels into apartments that are filling faster than expected.

**Spectra**'s amenities and rich history set it apart from the crowd and bring it up to 80 percent leased in less than a year.

"As with FiDi in New York, downtown Hartford was a business district that became desolate at night," said **Joseph Klaynberg**, **Wonder Works** chairman and founding partner. "But we saw an opportunity, and **Spectra** has led the charge in shifting the local mindset to downtown as a mixed-use neighborhood."

In 2011, **Klaynberg** and partner **Jeffrey Ravetz**

purchased the former **Freelancers** and other re-Clarion Hotel once owned by Maha-rishi Mahesh Yogi, guru to The Beatles.

In its latest incarnation, building's lounges and work residents pass through an art-filled lobby with soaring 14-foot ceilings to get to their studio, one- or two-bedroom homes. All apartments have oversized windows, washer/dryers, and updated kitchens with **Blomberg** refrigerators and European appliances.

There are Ping-Pong and billiards tables and a 46-seat screening room.

"**Spectra** helped redefine fine downtown Hartford as a new destination, and residents and retailers are taking notice," says **Eric Brody**, **Wonder Works** COO and Partner.

The building's history as a hotel comes through in the bathrooms' spacious layouts and contemporarily upgraded water fixtures and shower heads. Additionally, second and third-floor homes have office areas with separate entrances. Furnished and corporate apartments are also available.

The building hosts an array of amenities. Residents on the run appreciate the mini convenience store. There is a fitness center, yoga/Pilates studio, or half basketball court.

