

# STONEHILL & TAYLOR

Media Contact:

Leslie Knobloch

[leslie@dadagoldberg.com](mailto:leslie@dadagoldberg.com)

212.673.3232

## **New Downtown Rooftop Bar Brings the Spirit of Cuba to NYC Summer Nights**

New York (June 2015) – A bar inspired by Cuban cantinas, AZUL opens on the roof of Hotel Hugo in trendy Hudson Square, Manhattan this June. Hospitality design firm, Stonehill & Taylor created the space, in collaboration with Sean Largotta, owner of Bar Hugo and NYC restaurants Crown, Lion, Bill's Food & Drink, and Il Principe at Hotel Hugo.

AZUL offers a relaxed setting with 360-degree views of Manhattan and the Hudson River—all the way out to Statue of Liberty. The rooftop is surrounded by lush plantlife and a wraparound glass railing that allows views to be enjoyed from anywhere in the bar. Guests can take in the view while lounging or perching at intimate standing cocktail counters.

The relaxed design is meant to evoke a street-side hotspot in Little Havana, with vintage ads, posters for live acts from 1950s, street art, and spray painted graphics. The natural tones are accented by a bright petroleum blue wall and colorful hoop lounge chairs. Nearby, a communal wood table made of reclaimed wood—with yellow and orange salvaged chairs around it, concrete low tables and hanging festoon lights add to the bar's street-side feel.

AZUL will serve light bites – a selection of tacos and bocaditos - made with quality organic and fresh ingredients. The bar partnered with Brooklyn's Kelvin Slush and will be one of the first establishments to have Kelvin's natural slushy machine to create Caribbean-inspired cocktails made with organic slushy.

*Open 5pm-1am, Monday – Friday and 1pm-1am, Saturday – Sunday, [azulny.com](http://azulny.com)*

*Hotel Hugo 525 Greenwich St, New York, NY 10013*

### **About Stonehill & Taylor**

Stonehill & Taylor is an architecture and interior design firm based in New York City. The firm uses a collaborative approach to produce unique design stories. Its successful projects range from interiors, new building construction, renovations and historic preservation including: The Ace Hotel, Novotel Times Square, Refinery Hotel, The Paramount Hotel's Diamond Horseshoe and The Press Hotel in Portland, ME. Stonehill & Taylor is at the forefront of sustainable design, developing projects that are conscious of their impact on local communities and the world. The firm designed the first LEED Gold hotel in New York, The Crosby Street Hotel, another with The NoMad and was responsible for the most recent renovation of Hyatt Regency Minneapolis using locally-made goods. For more information, visit: [www.stonehilltaylor.com](http://www.stonehilltaylor.com)

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## ***About Crown Group***

Crown Group is a Manhattan-based restaurant management firm forged in 2009 and founded by Sean Largotta. Crown Group creates, curates, owns, and operates renowned eateries across New York City. By reimagining historical venues for the twenty-first century and providing unique culinary experiences to their patrons, the Crown family of restaurants, The Lion, Crown, Bills, Windsor, Il Principe & Bar Hugo @ Hotel Hugo offers a variety of fare and atmosphere, united by an overarching dedication to refined dining. For more information, visit: [www.crowngrouphospitality.com](http://www.crowngrouphospitality.com).