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Big Apple Apartment Lists for \$40 Million

By Christina S.N. Lewis

Sun Microsystems co-founder and former chief scientist Bill Joy is seeking \$40 million for the massive Manhattan apartment that he bought five years ago -- but never moved into.

The apartment is in one of three condominium towers designed by Richard Meier in the West Village, overlooking the Hudson River. The asking price is likely the highest ever for a downtown Manhattan residence, suggesting that the current Wall Street turmoil hasn't yet damped confidence at the top of the city's real-estate market.

The 53-year-old computer engineer paid about \$17.57 million for the unfinished, roughly 11,000-square-foot triplex in 2002, the year of the building's construction, and hired Mr. Meier to design the interior. Spanning the entire eighth through 10th floors of the southern Perry Street tower, it's the largest unit in the building. Calvin Klein's triplex penthouse three floors above measures close to 10,000 square feet, city records show.

Mr. Joy created a double-height living room on the ninth floor. The master suite, spanning the 10th floor, includes an exercise room and a sauna. The lower floor includes bedrooms, a library and a recreation room.

Mr. Joy never moved in, according to his listing broker, Roger Erickson of Sotheby's International Realty. Mr. Joy, a partner with Silicon Valley venture-capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, declined a request for comment. He also owns a home in Aspen, Colo.