



Penn Station New York, NJ TRANSIT Entrance

DESIGN TEAM: Cesar Vergara, AED & Chief Designer, NJ TRANSIT (2000-2003)
EE & K Architects
Vornado Realty

CLIENT: NJ TRANSIT

COMPLETION DATE: 2004

NJ TRANSIT designed and built “a station within a station” in Penn Station New York, decorating the concourse with New Jersey themes and architecture reminiscent of the original 1900 Penn Station design of McKim White Meade. A street level station, similar to the Long Island Rail Road entrance on 34th Street, was planned at 31st Street and 7th Avenue leading into the NJ TRANSIT concourse. The project posed a particular design and urban challenge as the space to be owned by NJ TRANSIT included only the street level and the space leading down to the train platforms; the air rights were the property of Vornado Realty. However, NJ TRANSIT retained a strong influence over the appearance of the station area above the entrance, which would be used primarily for advertising space.

As NJ TRANSIT’s chief designer, **CESAR VERGARA** was responsible for the “look and feel” of all rolling stock, infrastructure, stations and furnishings.

CESAR VERGARA conceptualized monumental advertising kinetic surfaces that would move with the wind like ships sails. The movement is translated to the street level station lobby by a column sheeted in glass, carrying the affect into the interior. The roof of the street level entrance would be made of skylights to allow full view of the monumental sails. The street level entrance remains in planning.

