



Award of MERIT

712 Fifth Avenue Atrium & Lobby
New York, NY

Tillotson Design Associates

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The integration of lighting with the sculptural quality of glass creates a stunning image, inviting users in from the street and encouraging them to linger. The large central cove has a knife edge, which required careful blending of light strips of varying optics and aiming.

A three-sided cove behind the concierge pulls focus, while accent lights provide the necessary punch on the counter. A glowing light cove at the back wall, visible upon entry, draws visitors into the elevator lobby. Carefully integrated coves mark each elevator door threshold.

The adjacent light-filled atrium features a four-story, street-facing façade of original Lalique art glass. The glass has beautiful depth and texture, but it is clear, making illumination technically challenging. Linear uplights with narrow optics were carefully concealed in the façade. This approach subtly emphasizes the texture and sparkle of the glass without reflections.

The steel support structure of the interior balcony contains integrated spotlights to illuminate each frosted-glass bridge surface. Illuminating these translucent bridges and the four-story stone wall – all while minimizing visible sources – proved key to the success of this striking, visually comfortable environment.

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