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Consolo & Aquino near closeout on Third Ave. block-front

In a matter of months, the leasing team of Faith Hope Consolo, chairman, and Joseph Aquino, executive vice president of Prudential Douglas Elliman's Retail Group, has arranged the leases for several new stores along the David Rockwell-designed block-front that runs from 61st to 62nd Streets on Third Avenue.

The newest entry to the mix is Oreste Borsa, a Chicago-based retailer of fine Italian accessories, including women's designer handbags and fashion jewelry, which is expanding its brand by returning to New York and taking the store at 1039 Third Avenue.

Other leases arranged by Consolo and Aquino at this Bloomie's Country destination, include Kusmi Tea, Variazioni, Arche Shoes, Morrell Wine Exchange and Jimmy's Custom Framing Gallery.

Of the entire group on the block-front, only one store remains available; a 1,500 s/f store at the southeast corner featuring an astounding 35 feet of frontage.

"We have re-positioned the entire block with an eclectic mix of retail," said Consolo. "What makes Oreste Borsa such a wonderful addition is the unique way the merchandise is restocked every ten days so that it's always new, fresh, exciting."

Aquino added, "The landlord spent millions of dollars giving the retail store fronts and plaza a royal makeover. Then it was up to us to bring in the kinds of businesses that reflected the cachet of the building and, as a result, there's only one space left."

Oreste Borsa began its business in New York then moved to Chicago.

As part of its expansion, it is "looping" back to its first home. Consolo and Aquino represented the landlord and the tenant in the transaction.