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Stephanie March and Daniel Benton Score \$34M Penthouse



Not bad for \$34 million.

By Laura Vecsey

Actress Stephanie March and her new husband, technology investor Daniel Benton, made headlines this week when it was reported that the couple have purchased a \$34.62 million penthouse at the Shephard in the West Village.

Perhaps even more impressive than the price is the space: The couple plans to combine two units in this condo building to create a 6,836-square-foot residence with 3,451 square feet of terrace space.



The Shephard is a luxury redevelopment project at 275 W. 10th St. spearheaded by architectural firm Beyer Blinder Bell and developed by the Naftali Group. The boutique building contains 36 apartments and three penthouses. Most have been sold or are under contract.



But as if all those bells, whistles, bucks and big names weren't enough, there's more sauce on this rich real estate dish.

March's acting career was highlighted by her role in "Law & Order SVU." However, her most recent claim to fame — or last appearance as tabloid fodder — was her 2015 divorce from celebrity chef and restaurateur Bobby Flay.

The dissolution of that marriage famously meant the division of the couple's real estate holdings, which included a Bridgehampton getaway and their custom duplex loft at the Chelsea Mercantile, at 252 Seventh Ave. March was living in apartment #8H9H and caring for her ill mother there when the divorce settlement called for her to vacate the residence.



Bobby Flay's apartment at the Chelsea Mercantile has been taken off the market as of November 2017.

In the months and years that followed, Flay unsuccessfully tried to sell the unit, listing it originally for \$8 million, then dropping the price, then renting it for \$22,000 per month, then listing it again for sale last year for \$6.5 million.

But Flay's apartment appears not to have found a buyer. It was removed from the market in November without a recorded sale or closing.

Meanwhile, March and her new husband are headed for marital bliss — or at least real estate bliss — at their sprawling new digs in the West Village. The larger of their two units, Penthouse C, spans 5,985 square feet with 5 bedrooms and 5.5. bathrooms. It had been listed for \$29.5 million. But that wasn't enough space, so the deal includes a second unit that will be combined with the penthouse.



Should March and Benton ever tire of all their gorgeous space, they can wander around the rest of the Shephard. Amenities in the building include a basketball court, gym, golf simulator, screening room, art room, paneled library that opens to the building's landscaped garden, steam rooms, and an arcade and ping pong room.







