

AWARD OF
MERIT

TAO Downtown
New York, NY

LIGHTING DESIGN

Focus Lighting

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TAO Downtown is a 22,000-square-foot dining experience inspired by the idea of an underground speakeasy. By carefully analyzing the visitors’ primary viewpoints, a lighting design that guides their exploration of the space and provides a new experience at every turn, was created. Integrated lighting ties the various spaces together as accents add a sense of drama and reveal intricate architectural details, artifacts, and hand-painted murals. Decorative fixtures were custom-designed to radiate TAO’s aesthetic and provide an apparent source of light. In the tiered dining area, downlights were integrated into the decorative pendants to reduce the quantity of fixtures and shift the focus toward the grand dining space. Here, five layers of light are used to sculpt the room’s the main attraction - a 20-foot-tall Quanyin statue.

ARCHITECT
Rockwell Group

OWNER
TAO Group

PHOTOGRAPHER
Warren Jagger



“The lighting is designed to service all that’s going on in the restaurant. There’s a lot of contrast between warm and cool lighting and glare is so well controlled. We thought the lighting on the tables makes this large space feel intimate.”
— *Lumen Awards Jury*

