

EAST VILLAGE 4

## After Amato, Curtain Will Rise Once Again on the Bowery

BY JOEY ARAK | JAN 27, 2009, 8:52AM EST



Beyond the apparent facts?that it was sold for \$3.7M and that the theater will close in May?little is known about the details surrounding the deal for the Bowery's **Amato Opera**. Will the building, near 2nd Street, survive? It appears so! A broker who represented the buyer, megalandlord Steve Croman, told *The Real Deal* that Croman plans to **find another theater to occupy the ground floor** of the building, a surprising revelation given the fate of other recently sold scruffy Bowery properties. So, who gets to be the lucky troupe? Our suggestion, **Cirque du Soleil**, is rendered above. Why not? Everyone's favorite band of surrealist French Canadian clowns has tried, and failed, to get full-time theater space at Pier 40 *and* that new Related project on West 42nd Street. Sure, the Amato space may be a bit cramped, but it would really bang home that whole death-of-the-Bowery meme.

- · Bowery buyer hopes to replace theater [Real Deal]
- · Bowery's Amato Opera Sold for \$3.7M, Closing in May [Curbed]