



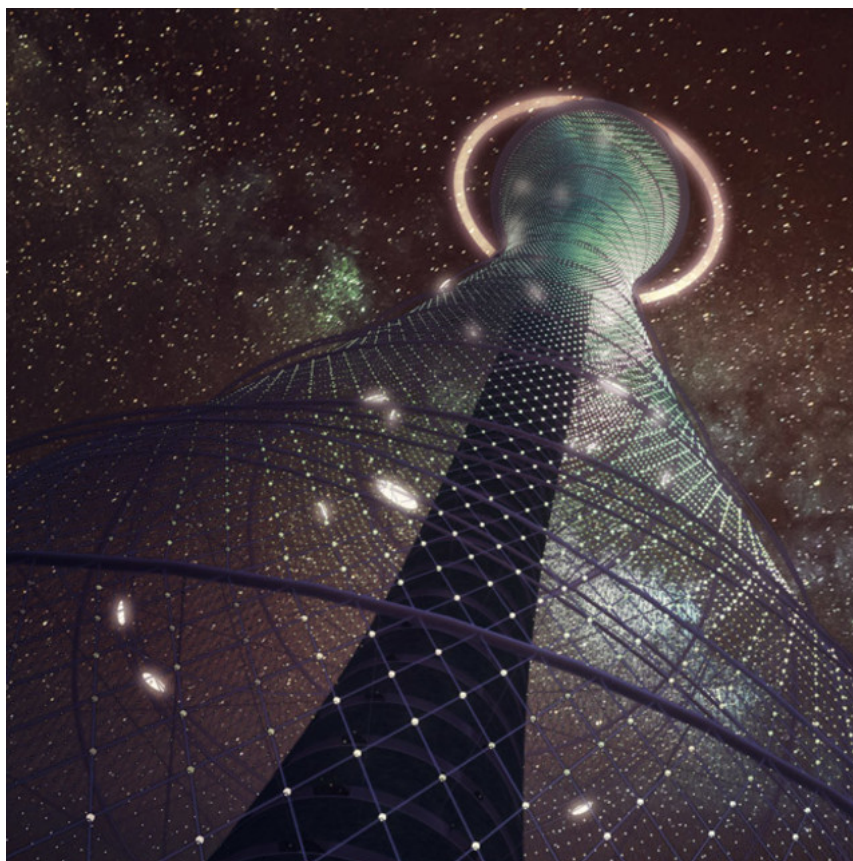
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Carlo Ratti designs mile-high observation tower with a park on top

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Measuring 1,609 metres high, the tower would be almost double the height of the world's tallest building – the 828-metre-high Burj Khalifa. Italian architect Carlo Ratti has unveiled plans to build a mile-high observation tower, envisioned as a vertical alternative to New York's Central Park. Carlo Ratti Associati worked with German engineer Schlaich Bergermann Partner and British design studio Atmos on the proposal, which was commissioned by an undisclosed client.

- To achieve the record-breaking height, the tower is designed as lightweight structure supported by a network of pre-stressed cables – the result of a complex engineering study.
- It is not planned for any particular location, although the team are in talks with officials from numerous cities interested in building it, according to a spokesman for Ratti's studio.
- It would be covered in plants, and would feature a vertiginous viewing platform.

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