Hed: Report: Avant Gardner looking to sell Brooklyn Mirage amidst financial difficulties

Dek: The venue was supposed to reopen two months ago but has faced ongoing permitting and inspection delays.

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Avant Gardner, parent company of Brooklyn Mirage, is allegedly trying to sell the New York City venue over financial and permitting issues, according to <i>BKMAG</i>.

The report's source claims to have witnessed Gary Richards, the non-executive Chairman of The Board for Avant Gardner, discussing the company's financial woes. Richards, a DJ under the name Destructo and the replacement for former CEO Josh Wyatt, reportedly said that the company was "bleeding money" and that "they're looking to get a buyer, but it's impossible right now."

The FADER reached out to Avant Gardner representatives for a comment, but have not yet received a response.

Earlier this year, Avant Gardner <u>revealed</u> that Brooklyn Mirage had undergone an extensive <u>redesign</u> during the winter months. The updated building, slated to open on May 1, would incorporate opera style balconies and the world's first fully kinetic shutter system in a music venue, and cost at least \$10 million, according to the <u>New York Times</u>. However, the venue is still closed, and its lineup of shows have been cancelled or relocated as the company grapples with <u>delayed schedules</u>, failed safety inspections, and permitting issues.

While the company hasn't made any official statements about the future of the venue, an anonymous Avant Gardner insider reportedly <u>confirmed</u> Richards' statements.

"If they don't get bought, they'll definitely have to file bankruptcy," the source said. "The company is so broke that certain employees are missing months of back pay and they're not paying any holiday incentive wages. As far as speculation goes from me, this summer is a wash."