Today's News - March 10, 2003

Libeskind as master of architecture, politics, and budgets ("Daniel is good at getting the best bang for your buck. It's called value engineering,..." says Nina. "It is the bargain-basement of all the schemes in the competition," says Daniel.) – Memorial competition "efforts fascinating even to those of us who are not American." – Hometown proud of Pentagon Memorial designer. – Souvenirs of disasters. – Honeymoon over for NYC mayor's housing plans? – On a lighter note, at Cannes "deals are done that will change the face of a score of cities...[then architects] go back to being herbivores in black polo necks and funny glasses." – Gehry to make music Miami. – Environmental architecture in Taiwan. – Smart growth at odds with developers in Virginia. – Mixed-use mega-project in Dubai. – The Twentieth Century Society tried, but 1970s library in Birmingham, UK, has no future as site to be "a kind of mini-Manhattan." – High praise for new Seattle skyscraper, but "If that grunky old parking garage...hogs the spotlight, we may look like a city of rubes that has let library architect Rem Koolhaas pull something over on us." – A wealth (or dearth) of visions for Baltimore development. – Big bucks for shoddy school work in Miami. – A new book examines the Palestinian conflict, and how "each side has enlisted architecture as part of its political rhetoric." – A new publication explores The Next American City.

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Commentary: Tough Angles: The winning scheme is a triumph, not of design but of Libeskind's nose for politics. By Patrick Pinnell - Hartford Courant

De$igns of Trouble: [Libeskind] record indicates a willingness to retool his bold designs to accommodate financial and political realities. - NY Post

Libeskind raises Denver Art Museum's profile - Denver Post

Editorial: Written in stone and light: [memorial] competitions have refocused attention on the question of just what it is we do -- or should be doing -- when we build memorials...even to those of us who are not American. - Japan Times

[Memorial] Monument to 9/11 victims has Morris native's touch - Julie Beckman/Kaseman-Beckman Architectural Strategies - Daily Record (New Jersey)

Souvenirs With an Emotional Cast: Constantin Boym's Buildings of Disaster. By Linda Hales - Washington Post

Critiquing The Mayor's Housing Plan: now that people have had time to read the fine print, many, especially in City Council, have second thoughts. - Gotham Gazette

Cossacks, mop tops and lamé swimsuits: The annual Cannes trade fair and bun fight is a showcase for the good, the bad and the downright bonkers. By Deyan Sudjic - Observer (UK)

Celebrity architect to develop New World Symphony site plan - Frank Gehry; Bernard Zyscovich - Miami Herald

A new direction in architecture: a group of Taiwanese architects is designing houses tailored to suit the needs of one of the nation's more environmentally conscious counties - Taipei Times

In Loudoun County, 'Smart-Growth' Legislation Hits a Snag: Opponents see it as a "slow-growth" plan at best and, at worst, as a "no-growth" plan. By Roger K. Lewis - Washington Post

Dhs. 1.4 billion BurJuman expansion project [Dubai] moves into final construction phase - Kohn Pederson Fox Associates; Eric Kuhne and Associates - Zawya.com (Gulf News)

Shelf life: It's great that Birmingham is getting a gleaming new library. But it's a crying shame they have to destroy the old one. By Jonathan Glancey - Richard Rogers Partnership; John Madin Design Partnership; Future Systems - Guardian (UK)

On Architecture: A tall, cool one: Seattle's first new skyscraper...While IDX may not push architecture's boundaries, it is an impeccable rendition of a familiar building type. - Zimmer Gunsul Frasca images - Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Of convention hotel plans, first is the least: Three groups step up to the plate with variety of proposals for Oriole Park area - RTKL; John Portman & Associates; Peter Fillat Architects - Baltimore Sun

Dozens of schools accepted with flaws, risks: school district paid millions to the contractors and architects who turned in shoddy work. - Miami Herald


Enchanted by Cities: Three recent Yale University graduates have a vision for The Next American City, which happens to be the title of the quarterly magazine they just began. - New York Times

WTC Proposals: Who's Saying What Worldwide (updated 03/07/03)- ArchNewsNow

- Competition Winner: Coop Himmelb(l)au, Alborg Music House, Alborg, Denmark