Today's News - October 22, 2003

A grand vision for transit hub at Ground Zero. -- Architect exits the scene of Covent Garden Ring cycle. -- Disney Hall continues to hit all the right notes (and no charge for LA Times!). -- Debate continues about Moscow's building boom. -- An old factory to become a new neighborhood. -- GSA Design Excellence Program seeking fresh talent. -- Newsweek's first-ever issue devoted to design and its "fresh life-affirming spirit." -- A treasure restored as corporate HQ. -- French architect takes on house design in Seoul. -- Superman honors super architect. -- A Laotian architect thrives in Rhode Island.


Architect exits stage design: Daniel Libeskind...was to design a new production at Covent Garden of Wagner's Ring cycle...has now withdrawn - Guardian (UK)

Internationally acclaimed Gehry may finally win respect in his hometown for Disney Concert Hall. By Ann Jarmusch - San Diego Union-Tribune

Reflection of the city around it: Frank Gehry's Walt Disney Concert Hall is a powerful and madly exuberant work...a powerful work of social commentary. By Nicolai Ouroussoff - Los Angeles Times

New Moscow's Architecture: Harmony Or Cacophony? Muscovites...satisfied with their present life...critics of the present-day capital contend that dozens of architectural treasures...have been destroyed - Pravda (Russia)

Relic Gets New Life in Makeover: plan to transform the entire 150-acre, mostly desolate site in Wood-Ridge, N.J into a new neighborhood with the 2-million-square-foot Curtiss-Wright factory at its core. - Duany Plater-Zyberk - New York Times

GSA Design Excellence Program announces long-term contract for creative design practices - General Services Administration (GSA)

Design 2004: Meet the Titans of Taste: It's not about the glass is half full or half empty—it's about the glass itself. Six experts tell us why - Michael Van Valkenburgh; Murray Moss; Paul Thompson/Cooper-Hewitt; Alice Rawsthorn/Design Museum of London; Rob Forbes/Design Within Reach; Paola Antonelli, Terence Riley/MoMA - Newsweek

The McMansion Next Door: Why the American house needs a makeover - Newsweek

The Gospel of Richard: Richard Koshalek wants to beef up the Art Center College of Design's social agenda and make the school a 21st century Bauhaus...tear down the ivory tower - Newsweek

Reinventing Everyday Life: At this cutting-edge firm, design's not just about widgetry anymore - David Kelley/IDEO - Newsweek

Cityscapes: A Walking Tour: Newsweek looks beyond museums to find great design on the streets of eight international cities. - Marc Newson; Herzog & de Meuron; Rem Koolhaas; Frank Gehry; Wood + Zapata; etc. - Newsweek


French Architect Launches Designer Homes: ...no doubt be a welcome departure from the thousands of identical high-rise apartments which populate the metropolis of Seoul. - Philippe Starck/Yoo-K - Korea Times

Habitat for Humanity: Associates from Wright's Taliesin help build home - Pioneer Press (Minnesota)

Michael Graves to be Honored by the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation At 13th Annual 'A Magical Evening' Gala November 24 - Yahoo News

Laotian building a future in Rhode Island - Thongkhoun "Thomas" Pathana/That Architects; DP Evers Architecture - Providence Journal

Urban Aria: Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts - Diamond and Schmitt Architects [images] - ArchNewsNow

-- Opening: Frank O. Gehry & Partners: Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles
-- Tadao Ando Architects: Sayamaike Historical Museum, Osaka, Japan
-- Book: The Grand Tour: Travelling the World with an Architect's Eye By Harry Seidler