Today's News - December 11, 2003

Freedom Tower: Whose design is it anyway? - 2 Columbus Circle battle continues. -- Gehry builds a Brooklyn neighborhood from scratch (maybe) and Milan fair grounds - with Lord Foster (another maybe). -- Parking garages take on civic roles. -- Moving Farnsworth may not be such a bad idea (there’s that pesky river). -- Tel Aviv Museum of Art has an architect, but keeping much under wraps - and original architects up in arms. -- The stars come out for Museum for Canadian Human Rights. -- Dublin Docklands looking for a building of “outstanding architectural quality.” -- Koreans discover bed-and-breakfasts: “resorts that are nothing more than imported blueprints of luxury homes from the West.” -- Cleveland lights up a landmark - and its future. -- In San Francisco, future high-rises may look like tweezers. -- Green Building Awards deadline draws near. -- A review of Detroit’s architectural ups and downs in 2003. -- For your amusement: SPA’s review of the year (and while you’re there, check out “Royal Gold Medal Winner Rem Koolhaas presents a one-minute lecture, with pictures!”).

The New Look at Ground Zero May Be the Oldest - Daniel Libeskind; David M. Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Guy Nordenson- New York Times

Madhouse: The fight over the Ground Zero Freedom Tower has spiraled completely out of control... - Daniel Libeskind and David Childs/Skidmore Owings and Merrill- NY Post

Preserving the Past or Building the Future: 2 Columbus Circle and a battle over keeping its architecture intact. By Justin Davidson - Edward Durrell Stone; Brad Clopefil/Allied Works Architects - NY Newsday

A Grand Plan in Brooklyn for the Nets’ Arena Complex: $2.5 billion commercial and residential project... Frank Gehry "the perfect architect for this site." [slide show]- New York Times

An Appraisal: Courtside Seats to an Urban Garden: This is dramatic urban theater, and a reminder that Wows were at the heart of Baroque urbanism. By Herbert Muschamp - Frank Gehry; Laurie Olin - New York Times

Gehry, Foster Team Up On Bid for Milan Project: ...seven other teams vying for the contract. - Wall Street Journal

Parking garage design to match neighbors: ...retail space...will help give the building a "friendly feature" and be consistent with new urbanism goals of creating energy at street level. - Easkew+ - The Advocate (Baton Rouge, LA)

City’s search committee picks Phoenix firm for new garage design: ...a "light and airy" concept that would be user-friendly. - Dick & Fritsche Design Group/William Otwell & Associates; Associated Architects - Prescott Daily Courier (Arizona)

Farnsworth House: A ’51 Mies Classic Comes Down to the Wire: Public response to the preservationists’ plea has not produced the war chest expected... More puzzling has been the lack of support from the architectural community... - Mies van der Rohe - New York Times

Keeping the prize winner in the dark: Tel Aviv Museum of Art, aggressive, almost military architecture, even at its best, which doesn’t succeed in creating a public space worthy of the name. By Esther Zandberg - Preston Scott Cohen; Dan Etlan and Yitzhak Yaashar - Haaretz (Israel)

500 architects want to build $270-million Museum for Canadian Human Rights in Winnipeg: Canadian Frank Gehry among applicants. Moshe Safdie...and Daniel Libeskind...have been mentioned in connection with the project - Ottawa Citizen (Canada)

Centre for performing arts to be built in Dublin Docklands: Developers are to be invited to put forward proposals...likely to include about 15,000 sq m (161,460 sq ft) of office and retail space...cost about €160 million. - Irish Times

Korea catches cabin fever: ...bed-and-breakfasts...modeled after summer and winter homes of the rich in various countries of the world. - Korea Herald

Project’s beams of brilliance lighten up landmark and city: “Luminocity” uses light as metaphor to ignite awareness about the potential of art and high technology to brighten the city’s future. By Steven Litt - Cleveland Plain Dealer

The future looks like tweezers: an ambitious design studio...to see how smart young people think urban design should evolve. By John King - Craig Hartman/Skidmore Owings & Merrill; Rodolphe el-Khoury - San Francisco Chronicle


Architecture Year-End Review: Preservation, promise. Buildings rescued, ridiculed as much progress is made. By John Gallagher - Grissim Metz Andriese Associates/GMA; Gunnar Birkerts; McIntosh Ports; Smith Group; Phillips Sawyer Associates; Rossettis Associates; Todd Williams and Billie Tsien; Diamond and Schmitt Architects - Detroit Free Press

SPA - Review Of The Year 2003 - Small Practice Architects / SPA.UK

-- Jean Nouvel: Vesunna Gallo-Roman Museum, Périgueux, France
-- SAANA/Kazuhiro Sejima/Ryue Nishizawa: New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York City
-- Allied Works: Seattle Art Museum Expansion
-- Book: Morphosis By Thom Mayne

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