Today's News - December 30, 2003

Editor's note: We'll be dusting off our party hats tomorrow...this is the final newsletter of 2003 -- and what a year it's been! We hope you've found our daily missives interesting and informative along with a bit of inspiration and even amusement (lest we take ourselves too seriously). ANN will be back in your mailboxes bright and early (New York time) on Monday, January 5th. Here's to a wondrous New Year for us all! -- Kristen Richards

Putting the Freedom Tower process into perspective. -- The structural engineer combines art and geometry "never imagined he would help create the spire that would replace the towers." -- The "D-word" (as in density): it's time to deal with it. -- Liverpool's new identity. -- An industrial district sparks another urban renaissance in Portland. -- The city planner who helped Milwaukee define its identity (now he's taking on Denver). -- Reviving Cuba's National Art Schools not an easy (or even promising) task. -- A treasure saved: "Whatever the fate of architecture at auction, the intensely emotional campaign to save the Farnsworth House has achieved something Mies could not. It has brought modernism in from the cold." -- The year in review - from all over (there will surely be more). -- New guide to Miami architecture with hopes that "a public better attuned to design will demand better new buildings and support preservation of the city's architectural legacy." -- A 32-foot-long panorama of Manhattan on view. -- Hillier Foundation grant to build library's architecture collection.

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After Year of Push and Pull, 2 Visions Meet at 1,776 Feet: ...an architectural evolution that, however tortuous, wound up producing a remarkably well-regarded design. By David W. Dunlap - David M. Childs/SOM, Daniel Libeskind - New York Times


In search of a new identity. Its dramatic setting and rich heritage make Liverpool a spectacular choice for European City of Culture. But Rupert Christiansen has a warning - Will Alsop - Telegraph (UK)

Building a district true to its works: Quietly, and virtually unnoticed, the workhorse Central Eastside Industrial District [Portland] is emerging as an urban renaissance. - The Oregonian

Piecing together a vibrant city: [departing city planning director] Peter Park saw big picture while reinventing urban landscape of Milwaukee. By Whitney Gould - Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Academic ruins: Cuba's unfinished National Art Schools received a revival four years ago... Before construction was halted in the '60s, the complex was one of the utopian vision - Roberto Gottardi; Ricardo Porro; Vittorio Garatti - Chicago Tribune

Thoroughly Modern Mies: Farnsworth Rescue Affirms Design Movement's Enduring Appeal...brought modernism in from the cold. By Linda Hales - Washington Post

Canadians catch on to city building: ...practitioners are playing an important international role. By Lisa Rochon - Diamond and Schmitt Architects; Bing Thom Architects; Corbett Cibinel Architects; Smith Vigeant architects; Frank Gehry; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects; HarriPontarini Architects; ERA Architects - Globe and Mail (Canada)

Architecture of the year: In the shadow of New York's 'wailing wall': The Ground Zero competition put the spotlight on Libeskind, but the designers of Beijing's Olympic Stadium were the real stars. By Devan Sudjic - Observer (UK)

Review of the year: architecture: Londoners took Lord Foster's Swiss Re Tower to their hearts – but, asks Giles Worsley, how long can it maintain its pride of place? - Telegraph (UK)

An exciting year for design as Princeton University sets new growth plans: Cutting-edge architecture mixes with the storied past. - Frank Gehry; Rafael Viñoly; Architects; Demetri Porphyrios - Princeton Packet

The shape of things to come: Candyfloss lights, friendly knife sharpeners and repro furniture with a twist...five designers at work [and] what's on their drawing boards - Carl Clerkin and William Warren; Gitta Gschwendtner; Tord Boontje; Sam Hecht - The Observer (UK)

Chicagophans of the year: Ralph Johnson/Perkins & Will: Building magic. By Blair Kamin - Chicago Tribune

Guide traces Miami buildings: Highlighting both the impressive and the lamentable, a local planner and activist is leading an effort to produce a comprehensive guide to Miami's architecture. - Miami Herald

Architecture Panorama: Once Around the Park: An exhibition in New York is built around Matteo Pericoli's meticulous panoramic drawing of the buildings that surround Central Park - New York Times

J. Robert and Barbara Hillier Foundation donates $50,000 to Princeton Public Library book fund: grant to go toward architecture collection. - Princeton Packet

-- Competition winners: Shigeru Ban; Jean de Gastines & Philip Gumuchdjian, Centre Pompidou - Metz, France
-- Competition winners: Foreign Office Architects: The Music Box, BBC Music Centre, White City, London
-- Foster & Partners: Elephant House, Copenhagen Zoo, Denmark
-- Half-way mark: Santiago Calatrava: Turning Torso, Malmo,Sweden