Today's News - May 20, 2005

It's thumbs-up (with some reservations) for Snøhetta's international Freedom Center at Ground Zero. - Are memorial museums "cabinets of misery"? - Calatrava may take on Chicago. - Staten Island ferry terminal signals a new beginning for Manhattan borough. - Berlin's new Academy of Arts both welcome and controversial. - Another take on Chicago's McSized McDonald's. - A campus shows "friendly modernism" for Canadian conference on conserving the Modern. - Prefab model home for modern age. - It's "Smash Bash" was a blast. - Weekend diversions: Pelli in Tulsa and Josef Berlin's White City.

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A Temple of Contemplation and Conflict: ...the [International Freedom Center and the Drawing Center] is more about politics than architecture - a theme-park view of American ideals in an alluring wrapper. By Nicolai Ouroussoff -- Snohetta; Libeskind; Calatrava; Gehry [slide show] - New York Times


Lofty plans to lend downtown beauty: Snohetta's museum, which will house the Drawing Center and the still embryonic International Freedom Center, behaves like a scene-stealing supporting actor in a roomful of divas. By Justin Davidson -- Snohetta; Adamson Associates; Calatrava; Gehry - NY Newsday

Memorial museums: cabinets of misery. There is an unhealthy obsession with showcasing the dark side of history. - Spiked (UK)

Lake Shore plan has superstar air: Already home to projects by such star architects as Frank Gehry, Rem Koolhaas and Helmut Jahn, Chicago may be about to add another international superstar to its list: Santiago Calatrava. By Blair Kamin and Thomas Corfman - Chicago Tribune

A Brighter Look for Staten Island's Front Door: St. George Terminal...$124 million overhaul to this point of entry and departure, and the borough's partisans hope history will recall the grand opening as a new beginning for all of Staten Island. -- HOK [images] - New York Times

New German Academy of Arts lays ghosts of past to rest: The Academy of Arts (Akademie der Künste) will be officially reopened in a new glass-fronted modernist building next to Berlin's Brandenburg Gate...has also been the source of controversy. -- Günter Behnisch [image] - Guardian (UK)

Supersize Mo! McDonald's tries to pack value into design in its huge new 50th Anniversary Restaurant. [images] - The Slatin Report

Trent: a 'Fallingwater' for every student: Trent University residences by Ronald Thom show a friendly modernism...I'm here attending the first-ever "Conserving the Modern in Canada" conference...By Dave LeBlanc - Globe and Mail (Canada)

A model house for the modern age -- Sunset magazine showcases its new kid on the block...not everyone wants to be fit into the same oversized mold. By John King -- Michelle Kaufman [images] - San Francisco Chronicle

Smashing success for an IT landmark: It was, almost surely, a first in the history of architecture: A grandson shatters a window of his grandfather's steel-and-glass temple--and no one calls the cops. By Blair Kamin -- Mies van der Rohe; Dirk Lohan - Chicago Tribune


Book review: Berlin's Tel Aviv walls: "Josef Berlin, Architect: Between Little Tel Aviv and the White City". Ha'aretz (Israel)

Exhibition Review: "The 60s: Montréal Thinks Big": The 1960s: just long enough ago to be familiar, yet far enough in the past to look back at this time of radical urban redevelopment with some degree of objectivity. By Terri Whitehead [images] - ArchNewsNow

Build Business: Client Loyalty – What You Don't Know Could Hurt You. By Stephanie Craft, CPSM

-- 2X Winners: 3XNielsen: Museum of Liverpool, and Salford Arts and Media Centre, Manchester, UK
-- Book: Bauhaus: 1919-1933 By Magdalena Droste (Taschen)

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