Today's News - February 17, 2006

Foster to tower over Mies Manhattan tower. – Libeskind building towers everywhere (except Ground Zero). – A Stern to soar in Baltimore. – A new canvas for architecture: urban-friendly freight villages - they’re really catching on Europe. – New study shows sprawl doesn’t cause obesity. – Toyo Ito wows the crowd in London. – Martha Schwartz has them snickering in Sydney. – A Times-Square-like monolithic “sculpture” doesn’t fit Chicago. – New technology changing the industry, but seminar with “clever people speaking like dolphins, i.e. intelligently but unintelligibly” leaves architects speechless. – Modernist architect in the desert astounded he’s a “collectable.” – On view in London: Barbieri photos present cities in toy-like innocence.

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Towering over Mies: A proposed office tower by Norman Foster, 610 Lexington Avenue, would rise adjacent to the iconic Mies van der Rohe–designed Seagram Building. [image]- The Architect’s Newspaper (NYC)

Despite Freedom Tower Setback, Libeskind Building Skyscrapers Around the World [images]- Architectural Record

A tall order for city skyline: 59-story tower OK’d by design panel would be highest building in Baltimore...$300 million project...latest example of a surge of redevelopment that has begun transforming downtown into a residential and entertainment hub. – Robert A.M. Stern- Baltimore Sun

It Takes a Freight Village: ...new approach to industrial development...freight villages...can become amenities for the urban area landscaped, well maintained, and a potential canvas for architecture. – Ricardo Bofill; Partnership for Sustainable Ports [images]- The Slatin Report

Sprawl Doesn’t Cause Obesity: Obesity is not directly associated with urban sprawl, according to a Chicago-area study...findings contradict the conventional wisdom that city dwellers are thinner. - Newswise

The lightness of being to: RIBA Gold Medal winner Toyo Ito is architecture’s impossible dreamer who takes every project in a new direction. - BD/Building Design (UK)

The world framed by a bagel: Martha Schwartz, who is credited, perhaps rightly, with revolutionising the landscape architecture profession, took time out from working on her East Darling Harbour proposal (with Richard Rogers, Ed Lipmann and Lend Lease Development) in Sydney...to speak...she didn't disappoint. By Elizabeth Farrell- Sydney Morning Herald

WLS-Ch. 7’s monolith -- maximum visibility, minimum aesthetic value: Entertainment, irritation or avoidance. A 40-year tradition of sculpture in downtown Chicago has come to this? – Legat Architects- Chicago Tribune

Stunned into silence: Hundreds of architects assembled at the British Museum to hear what emerged from the latest Smartgeometry workshop in Cambridge. Yet an opportunity to ask questions was met with a polite silence...clever people speaking like dolphins, ie intelligently but unintelligibly. - BD/Building Design (UK)

Desert homeowners cherish their Wexlers: No one’s more astounded that it takes more than a half-million dollars to buy a small steel Wexler than Don Wexler himself. [images]- Press-Enterprise (California)

The miniature world of Olivo Barbieri: Through his lens, the primary elements of cities as different as Rome and Las Vegas become toy-like and innocent...Cities, devoid of danger, in the palms of our hands. By Jonathan Glancey- Guardian (UK)

Symbol and Celebration: Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture: Modern design, vibrant colors, and symbolic interior elements help create a new cultural destination in Baltimor’s Inner Harbor and museum district. – The Freedom Group/RTKL [images]- ArchNewsNow

Feb. ‘06 Build Business: The Other Side of the Table: An Inside View of the Selection Process. By Stephanie Craft, CPSM

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