

Today's News - September 11, 2006

ArcSpace brings us Ando in Germany. – This day takes us 5 years back and brings us (some) hope for the future: Kamin offers a masterful series that looks at architecture and urban planning in an anxious age. – Ouroussoff on Towers 2, 3, and 4: "each of these architects is capable of far more...But at least we are beginning to see a real architectural composition emerge, one that for all its flaws, represents a serious effort to raise the level of conversation at ground zero." – For Davidson, new towers are "Libeskind Lite": better than predicted, but "not as good as the masterworks we once demanded." – Slatin says, "Vision not accomplished" but doesn't blame the architects: "what they have given us is intensely reflective of who is asking for it." – Are attack-proof towers the future of urban design? – An insightful look at how big money and artistic egos have made Ground Zero a "mosh pit of stakeholders." – 9/11 has sparked only minor changes in building codes - wider stairwells threaten loss of rentable space (groan). – Lest we forget the memorials: Hawthorne on how easily memorials can be pushed off track. – A look at some 9/11 memorials that have taken shape - and shine. – The mauling of the National Mall. — The newsletter will return to normal tomorrow.

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[Tadao Ando: Langen Foundation, Neuss, Germany](#)

[5 Years Later: What Price Security? Architecture in an anxious age: The skyscraper is back - but not without fear: At ground zero, more height but not enough vitality: Federal buildings don armor of nation under siege: How Wall Street became secure, and welcoming: Airports – a symbol of freedom – have become dehumanizing. By Blair Kamin – Foster; Rogers; Maki; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Libeskind; Calatrava; Cobb; Van Valkenburgh; Olin; Graves; Rogers Marvel; Jahn; etc.- Chicago Tribune](#)

[At Ground Zero, Towers for Forgetting: The designs for three glass towers at ground zero illustrate how low our expectations have sunk since the city first resolved to rebuild there...solid, competent work by three first-rate talents. But each of these architects is capable of far more. By Nicolai Ouroussoff – Foster; Rogers; Maki; Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Libeskind; Calatrava- New York Times](#)

[A trio's tribute: Onward means upward as 3 new towers are unveiled: Given how often expectations have been raised and lowered, the towers are better than the boxy blocks we might have predicted and not as good as the masterworks we once demanded...Call them Libeskind Lite. By Justin Davidson – Norman Foster; Richard Rogers; Fumihiko Maki- NY Newsday](#)

[Vision Not Accomplished: The three tower designs unveiled for Ground Zero last week mostly miss the point: it's not about them. By Peter Slatin – Foster; Rogers; Maki.; Childs; Libeskind \[images\]- The Slatin Report](#)

[The indestructibles: The Freedom Tower at Ground Zero could be the world's most attack-proof building. Is this the future of urban design? By Steve Rose – Childs/Skidmore, Owings & Merrill; Libeskind- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

[The Hole in the City's Heart: The combination of big money, prime real estate, bottomless grief, artistic ego and dreams of legacy transformed ground zero into a mosh pit of stakeholders banging heads... – Libeskind; Arad; Childs; Maki; Rogers; Foster- New York Times](#)

[9/11 Has Spurred Only Modest Changes in New York City and National Building Codes- New York Times](#)

[Unseemly Memorials: Planned tributes to the victims of 9/11 have served as a reminder only of the red tape such projects can face...future memorial juries would be wise to think about how and why these designs have been so easily pushed off track. By Christopher Hawthorne – Michael Arad; Peter Walker; Paul Murdoch- Los Angeles Times](#)

[Remembering the towers, and hope: The World Trade Center memorial is still just a plan, but others shine in place. By Justin Davidson – Masayuki Sono; Phil Gavosto/Ken Striga; Frederic Schwartz; Michael Arad- NY Newsday](#)

[The continued mauling of the National Mall: The black granite Vietnam Wall may be a famous masterpiece and Washington's most-visited memorial, but that hasn't stopped people from tinkering with it. By Christopher Knight- Los Angeles Times](#)

[INSIGHT: Sounding Good: Inspired by the classics: Nashville's new Schermerhorn Symphony Center. By Paul Scarbrough – David M. Schwarz; Akustiks; Fisher Dachs- ArchNewsNow](#)

[Please Walk on the Grass: Recreation and Play in the Contemporary City: An exhibition explores the reinvention of urban public spaces to meet the demands of 21st century recreation and leisure. By Zoë Ryan – Ábalos & Herreros; Acconci Studio; Adjaye/Associates; Stan Allen Architects; ATOPIA; Diller Scofidio + Renfro; FAT; Thomas Heatherwick; Walter Hood; Martha Schwartz; SHoP Architects; Ken Smith; Weiss/Manfredi; West 8 \[images\]- ArchNewsNow](#)

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