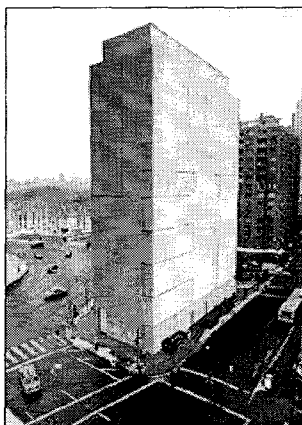


LANDMARK WEST!

From: "LANDMARK WEST!" <landmarkwest@landmarkwest.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 05, 2004 12:50 PM
Subject: New NY Times Architecture Critic Weighs in on 2 Columbus Circle



Computer rendering by Allied Works Architecture

2 Columbus Circle: New *NY Times* Architecture Critic Faults Mayor Bloomberg and MAD Design

"It seems that private interests are once again being favored above the broader public realm. [Edward Durell] Stone's design, and the people of this city, deserve more respect than this," writes *NY Times* architecture critic Nicolai Ouroussoff (see link to 10/4/04 NYT article below), connecting the dots between the Landmarks Commission's refusal to hold a public hearing for 2 Columbus Circle and the Bloomberg administration's development agenda. The Museum of Arts and Design (MAD) proposal to re clad the building doesn't pass muster on aesthetic grounds either. **"The real aim of this design is to cleanse the site of uncomfortable historical memories and thereby make it more palatable for powerful real estate interests. And this is a dangerous sign for the future."**

Dangerous signs, indeed. LANDMARK WEST! saw the sign last November, when we and colleague organizations filed a lawsuit challenging the City's waywardness on 2 Columbus Circle. Yesterday afternoon, we filed an appeal, signaling our commitment to ensuring that 2 CC receives the due process it deserves. **Help us make sure Mayor Bloomberg gets the message: New Yorkers want to know, how many more buildings will he allow to be lost because of politics?** Send letters in response to today's article to letters@nytimes.com, then go to <http://nyc.gov/html/mail/html/mayor.html> and send Bloomberg a copy of your letter. As always, please make sure we also get a copy at landmarkwest@landmarkwest.org.

Head's up: in late October, the NY City Council plans to hold a public hearing to address concerns about the functioning of the Landmarks Preservation Commission. Your participation is vital! Stay tuned for specifics...

Link to NY Times article by Nicolai Ouroussoff

<http://www.nytimes.com/2004/10/04/arts/design/04ouro.html?ex=1097914686&ei=1&en=66c358dfe3521a78>