

LANDMARK WEST!

THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

September 16, 2004

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

RE: Landmarks Hearing for 2 Columbus Circle (Edward Durell Stone, 1964)

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter dated August 30, 2004, from former Landmarks Preservation Commissioner Anthony M. Tung to current Landmarks Chair Robert B. Tierney. Mr. Tung, who served on the Landmarks Commission from 1979 to 1988, is an international preservation scholar and author of *Preserving the World's Great Cities* (Clarkson Potter, 2001).

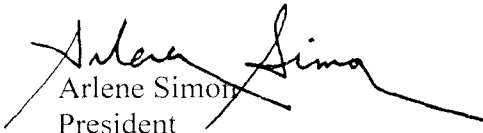
Mr. Tung states:

Simply, in the 26 years of my involvement in preservation matters, beginning with my appointment as a commissioner by Mayor Edward I. Koch in 1979, I have never seen the commission turn its back on such a widely supported and substantive argument for a hearing.

2 Columbus Circle deserves the chance for survival that a fair and due process is supposed to provide. The City's refusal to hold a public hearing, despite the vocal support of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Preservation League of New York State, the New York Landmarks Conservancy, the Municipal Art Society, architect and Yale architecture dean Robert A.M. Stern, *New York Times* architecture critic Herbert Muschamp, author Tom Wolfe, as well as over 1,000 of your constituents, imperils not only this peerless work of mid-century Modernism, but threatens to undermine the very foundations of good government.

On behalf of the many New Yorkers who feel that the City's failure to schedule a public hearing is a serious, improper breach of democratic process, we respectfully request your immediate action in this matter.

Sincerely,


Arlene Simon
President


Kate Wood
Executive Director

cc. List enclosed
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