

looksmart

[FindArticles](#) > [Art in America](#) > [April, 2005](#) > [Article](#) > Print friendly

### **Columbus Circle plan OK**

The controversial scheme proposed by the Museum of Arts and Design (MAD) to overhaul Two I Columbus Circle in Manhattan recently met with preliminary approval by a five-judge panel of the Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court. Designed by Brad Cloepfil of Allied Works Architecture, the plan calls for an almost complete reconfiguration of the existing marble-clad 1964 building designed by Edward Durell Stone as the Huntington Hartford Gallery of Modern Art. The scheme provoked the ire of preservationists--prompting three groups, Landmark West, Historic Districts Council and Docomomo--to file a lawsuit [see "Front Page," June/July '04]. In 1996, the Stone building was denied landmark status by the city's Landmarks Preservation Commission.

In the wake of the recent Appellate ruling, MAD, now located at 40 West 53rd St., can proceed with its plans to buy the property for \$17 million and begin the \$30-million reconstruction project. However, Kate Wood, director of Landmark West, told the press that the preservationists would not give up their fight to maintain the integrity of Stone's design; they plan to appeal the decision.

COPYRIGHT 2005 Brant Publications, Inc.

COPYRIGHT 2005 Gale Group