

MRS. VINCENT ASTOR  
405 PARK AVENUE  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022

January 28, 1997

The Honorable Rudolph Giuliani  
Mayor of The City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Giuliani:

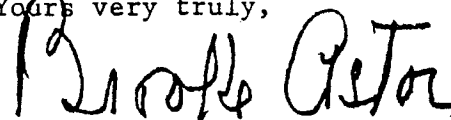
In February the fate of a building that has inspired strong feelings will be decided. The Economic Development Corporation will award 2 Columbus Circle to a bidder. I urge you to encourage preserving the building and returning it to its original use as an art museum. This structure was designed by the renowned architect, Edward Durrell Stone, as the Gallery of Modern Art and has in recent years enlisted many proponents that recognize its superb style and scale.

The Dahesh Museum has submitted a bid that would renovate the building and provide an important new cultural institution with a home on Columbus Circle. The Museum is the only institution in the United States devoted to 19th-Century European academic art and in only two years has developed an active exhibition schedule and public programming. It has already established an educational partnership with a public high school. It has funds to purchase, renovate and maintain the building. With this building, the Dahesh Museum could expand all programs and create a vibrant cultural presence on Columbus Circle.

The Dahesh Museum's bid is supported by museum professionals in America, France, England and Spain, as well as architects, architectural preservationists and the community.

It would be a grievous loss to the city's physical fabric and cultural life if a developer demolishes the building or irretrievably alters it to another use. Thank you for your attention.

Yours very truly,



Mrs. Vincent Astor

bcc: Juliet Hartford

MISSION PERMANENTE  
DE LA PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO  
AUPRÈS DES NATIONS UNIES

*L'Ambassadeur, Représentant permanent*

*Référence : 97 / 272*

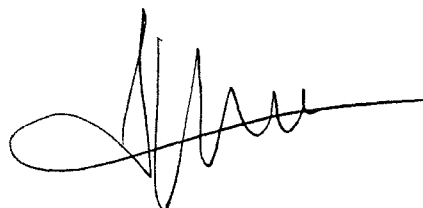
New York, 24 February 1997

Dear Ms. Hartford,

On behalf of His Serene Highness Prince Rainier III of Monaco and in reference to your letter of 21 January 1997, I have the honor of writing to you in order to inform you of the Prince's support of the Dahesh Museum's bid for the building, your father Huntington Hartford built, at 2 Columbus Circle, in New York.

Because of His very deep interest in fine arts, His Serene Highness Prince Rainier III has always been against the destruction of any form of art. In this specific case, He believes that the City of New York would indeed lose an invaluable historic patrimony. The fact that the building would be used by the Dahesh Museum to meet cultural needs makes The Prince hope that all available measures will be taken into consideration to safeguard this monument, which is by now known by all as a pillar of the City of New York.

Please accept, Dear Ms. Hartford, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'J' followed by several smaller, connected loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jacques L. Boisson

Ms. Juliet Hartford  
137 East 66th Street  
New York, NY 10021

January 22, 1997

The Hon. Rudolph Giuliani  
Mayor  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Giuliani:

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Yours very truly,

*Francesca van Halbeek*

Francesca von Habsburg  
Secretariat  
Schwarzenbergpromenade 34A  
A-5026 Salzburg

Salzburg, Feb.10.1997

Dear Mrs. Hartford,

Please find enclosed a copy of the letter H.I.R.R. Francesca von Habsburg, Archduchess of Austria has send to the Hon. Rudolph Giuliani, Mayor of New York City for your information.

Sincerely

Elke Stolhofer  
Secretariat  
Francesca von Habsburg

## J. Carter Brown

*Director Emeritus, National Gallery of Art*

April 19, 2000

Dear Mr. Mayor:

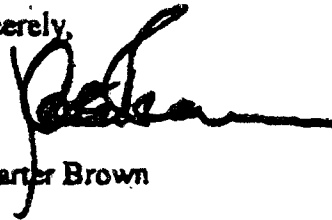
I earnestly hope that the Dahesh Museum will be able to be housed in the Huntington Hartford's Gallery of Modern Art at 2 Columbus Circle.

As chairman of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, appointed by the last six Presidents, and as chairman of the Pritzker Prize in Architecture, and a member of the Society of Architectural Historians, I can attest to the architectural significance of that building, particularly on that site. Critical fortunes of Edward Durell Stone I recognize have been on something of a rollercoaster, but I think with the perspective now we have, that building is deserving of a creative and permanent reuse.

The kind of art for which it was built is very like the wonderful collections of the Dahesh Museum. The fit would be perfect. I know there is no need to remind you of the economic generator that museums provide on the island of Manhattan, and this would be a considerable jewel in New York City's crown.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown

The Honorable Rudolph Giuliani  
Mayor  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

ERIVAN HAUB

DER GESCHÄFTSFÜHRENDE GESELLSCHAFTER DER FIRMEN:  
WILH. SCHMITZ-SCHOLL · TENGELMANN WARENHANDELSGESELLSCHAFT · EMIL TENGELMANN

**AIRMAIL**

February 19, 1997

The Hon. Rudolph Giuliani  
Mayor  
City Hall  
New York  
N.Y. 10007  
USA

Dear Mayor Giuliani,

As the major shareholder of The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company - the oldest and once the biggest food retailer in the world - I take the liberty of writing you this letter.

I heard to my distress that the fate of the "Gallery of Modern Art" at 2 Columbus Circle will be decided in the near future and that the Daresh Museum is going to bid for the building in order to keep it as a museum.

It would be a great pity if other bidders would be successful in purchasing the building - only to tear it down afterwards.

I understand that the Daresh Museum has a beautiful collection and the necessary funds to renovate and maintain the building; it could even expand the programs creating a more vibrant cultural presence on Columbus Circle.

It is with great hope that I turn to you for support. The city's Economic Development Cooperation should - for heritage reasons - not be allowed to have a developer alter the traditional building into something ordinary.

Respectfully yours,

