

LANDMARK WEST!

From: "LANDMARK WEST!" <landmarkwest@landmarkwest.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2004 3:05 PM
Subject: 2 Columbus Circle Gets A Day in Court

****REMINDER****

**Don't miss this chance to show your support for preserving 2 Columbus Circle.
Attend the NY State Supreme Court hearing tomorrow (details below)!**

The Landmarks Preservation Commission still refuses to hold a public designation hearing on 2 Columbus Circle – but that isn't stopping LANDMARK WEST! from going to the New York State Supreme Court and asking it to take swift and necessary action...

On Friday, February 27, at 9:30 AM, NYS Supreme Court Judge Walter Tolub will hear oral arguments in the Article 78 lawsuit filed by LW! (with Historic Districts Council, DOCOMOMO and others) to protect 2 Columbus Circle from wanton destruction. **This hearing is open to the public.** Only attorneys may speak, but your presence (a.k.a. "silent support") will make a difference – please attend if at all possible! RSVP to this e-mail message.

****Details****

NYS Supreme Court (very recognizable, temple-like building on Centre Street between Pearl and Worth Streets, a couple of blocks north of City Hall)

60 Centre Street, Room 335 (Judge Walter Tolub)

Because of security, please plan to arrive early and bring your photo ID.

Judge Tolub's request to hear oral arguments; the City's assignment of an A-team defense; an expedited time frame – all signs that no one considers this lawsuit "frivolous," least of all **us**. Preservation by litigation? Not our preferred strategy. But, when legal action is necessary to preserve the integrity of the processes designed to protect our historic resources, c'est la guerre!

Support 2 Columbus Circle. Support due process. Support nothing less than the future of preservation in NYC. See you downtown...

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From: "LANDMARK WEST!" <landmarkwest@landmarkwest.org>
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2004 4:57 PM
Subject: Face-Off Over 2 Columbus Circle

*****UPDATE ON NY STATE SUPREME COURT HEARING*****

Attorneys drew their foils for a brief duel this morning at the New York State Supreme Court over the future of 2 Columbus Circle.

There wasn't an empty seat in the courtroom as Judge Walter Tolub listened to arguments from both sides - in fact, when seats ran out, supporters were instructed to fill the jury box! At the conclusion of the hearing, Tolub said he would review the legal papers and acknowledged the urgency of rendering a decision before the process of selling the building goes any further. If all goes smoothly, this could take several weeks.

LANDMARK WEST! et. al.'s Article 78 lawsuit against the City

Here's the crux: We contend that, in order to approve the disposition of 2 Columbus Circle, the Mayor's Office took a "hard look" with blinders on. That is, it ignored all evidence that the building is worthy part of our cultural heritage, thus reaching a wholly arbitrary and incorrect conclusion about the true impacts of destroying this iconic 1964 design by Edward Durell Stone.

Many thanks to all of you who were able to attend - and those who were there in spirit. The battle continues...stay tuned!