

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Calendar Posting
For Wednesday, February 12th, 2003

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Should Controversial, City-Owned, Columbus Circle Building Be Demolished, Preserved or Altered?

*--Noted Architects Billie Tsien and Theodore HM Prudon,
Novelist Kurt Andersen, Critic Reed Kroloff to Debate--*

WHAT: Noted architects, novelist and critic to address future of controversial **2 Columbus Circle**, a city-owned building designed by architect **Edward Durell Stone**, a pioneer of the modern movement.

Stone designed 2 Columbus Circle for the **Gallery of Modern Art** to house the collection of A&P heir **Huntington Hartford**. Since its completion in 1964, the building has been loved, loathed, and is today at the center of heated debate surrounding modern architecture and its preservation. The **Museum of Contemporary Art & Design** (formerly the American Craft Museum) plans to make this building its permanent home, extensively altering its marble exterior façade.

LANDMARK WEST! and the **Center for Architecture / American Institute of Architects New York Chapter** will sponsor the discussion. **LANDMARK WEST!** works to preserve the best of the Upper West Side's architectural heritage. The **Center for Architecture** is a joint project of the AIA New York Chapter and the New York Foundation for Architecture.

WHO: The panel will feature:

- **Kurt Andersen**, novelist and host of the radio show *Studio 360*
- **Theodore HM Prudon**, architect and president of DOCOMOMO US (Documentation and Conservation of Monuments, Buildings, Sites and Neighborhoods of the Modern Movement)
- **Billie Tsien**, principal of Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects
- **Reed Kroloff**, architecture critic and former editor-in-chief of *Architecture* magazine
- **Thomas Mellins**, architectural and urban historian will moderate the panel

WHEN: **Wednesday, February 12, 2003**
Program begins promptly at **6:00 pm**. Reception follows from **7:30-8:30 pm**.

WHERE: **Steelcase**
4 Columbus Circle (58th Street & Eighth Avenue)

RSVP: All New Yorkers are welcome, but seating is limited. **Reservations required**
RSVP: 212-496-8110 or landmarkwest@landmarkwest.org
Admission is \$15. Eligible for AIA/CES credits.