

For the Los Angeles installation, the Nomadic Museum includes a theater sandwiched between the two main galleries.



GREGORY COLBERT

SHIGERU BAN'S SHIPPING-CONTAINER STRUCTURE
TAKES NEW FORM ON SANTA MONICA PIER

NOMADIC EXPEDITION

The Nomadic Museum, designed by Shigeru Ban to show the work of photographer Gregory Colbert, has migrated west, and has made its temporary home in a parking lot near the Santa Monica Pier. Instead of the long, linear structure that was its incarnation on Pier 54 on the Hudson River, the new \$6 million version consists of two long gallery spaces with an enclosed space in between the wings. "The site has the proportion of a square," said Ban, explaining the change. "Also, I was asked to design an additional theater. Using the in-between space, I didn't have to add additional containers because of the existing two wings of the gallery structure. We just added a new roof." The theater is showing short films by Gregory Colbert, whose photography has been exhibited in both museum incarnations.

Central to Ban's design intent was that the containers be purchased or borrowed locally, and returned to their original use. Unfortunately, in New York, contractors welded the units together, so the whole thing had to be scrapped. The Santa Monica contractors were careful to ensure that the museum would come apart easily. It will be up until May 14, before moving on to to-be-determined venues in Europe and Asia. **ANDREW YANG**

TWO CIVIC-MINDED ARCHITECTS
TO LEAD NEW YORK AIA CHAPTERS

PRESIDENTIAL PROMISE

The local chapters of the American Institute of Architects have put on a unified front with the recent selection of their two presidents: Terrence O'Neal for the state chapter (AIANY) and Mark Strauss for the Manhattan chapter (AIA NY). Both are prominent champions of community-oriented public architecture who emphasize the importance of good government relations.

When O'Neal, former vice-president of government affairs of the New York State Architects Political Action Committee and partner of his eponymous firm, was inaugurated on December 16, he announced that the theme for his tenure would be "One

New York State," encouraging members to work with governments to improve how architecture intersects with public policy.

Three days later, Mark Strauss was inaugurated in Manhattan and gave a speech imploring architects to become more politically involved and elected officials to become more aware of design. Strauss chose for his theme "Architecture as Public Policy," which will be realized in part through programs geared towards community outreach.

While O'Neal meets with Senators Hillary Clinton and Charles Schumer, Strauss anticipates that he will spend time strengthening ties to local agencies like the Department of City Planning, the Department of Design and Construction, and Department of Parks and Recreation. With their aligned goals, perhaps the new presidents will help the profession gain some leverage in the civic realm.

JAFFER KOLB

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FOSTER TO DESIGN THIRD WTC TOWER continued from page 4 held up a clean white sheet of paper, that's all it is. We just started." He was adamant, however, that the new building would not take any design cues from the "kissing towers" concept. Silverstein reportedly selected Foster under the advisement of David Childs of SOM.

One of the most contentious aspects of the rebuilding process has been the lack of adherence to Libeskind's masterplan. The Freedom Tower has maintained the spirit of the plan only in the building's height, a symbolic 1,776 feet. According to the *Poughkeepsie Journal*, Childs recently remarked to a packed auditorium, "[The height is] a decision I, frankly, never understood, because this building will always be measured in meters."

On the topic of whether Silverstein and Foster intended to keep Tower 2 in accordance with Libeskind's masterplan—with a roofline canted toward Ground Zero—Silverstein remarked, "The masterplan will be followed. Rooftops are not part of the masterplan."

Silverstein also announced that 7 World Trade Center signed its first tenant, the New York Academy of Sciences, which will lease 40,000 square feet in the building. **ANDREW YANG**