

WHITNEY

Press Release

Whitney Museum of American Art
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THE WHITNEY TO PRESENT *DESIGNING THE WHITNEY OF THE FUTURE,* A LOOK AT NEW BUILDING'S DESIGN

OPENS MAY 26, 2011

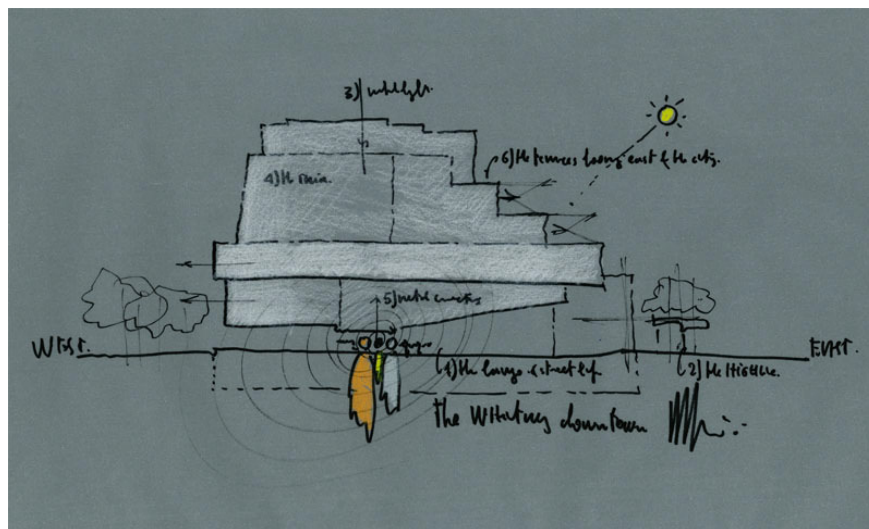


Image courtesy Renzo Piano Building Workshop in collaboration with Cooper, Robertson & Partners

NEW YORK, May 9, 2011 – Following the May 24th groundbreaking ceremony for its new building in downtown Manhattan, the Whitney Museum of American Art presents *Designing the Whitney of the Future*, a Lower Gallery show of renderings and a model for the new building's design by celebrated Italian architect Renzo Piano, paired with Lawrence Weiner's language piece *HERE THERE & EVERYWHERE* (1989). This show is organized by Whitney curator Carter Foster.

At an impressive site between the High Line and the Hudson River in New York City's Meatpacking District, the Whitney is breaking ground on Tuesday, May 24. Renzo Piano Building Workshop (RPBW) in collaboration with New York City firm Cooper, Robertson & Partners, has developed the design over the last several years. The renderings, model, and a video fly-through shown in *Designing the Whitney of the Future* display the building's final design. Color renderings will be placed on the wall along with additional miniature models that demonstrate the building's design progression.

These architectural materials will be accompanied by Lawrence Weiner's **HERE THERE & EVERYWHERE** (1989), positioned on one of the Lower Gallery walls. As the Whitney begins construction on its new building downtown, it will be, as suggested by Weiner's language piece, both **HERE** and **THERE** over the next few years.

The new building is slated to open to the public in 2015.

About the Whitney

The Whitney Museum of American Art is the world's leading museum of twentieth-century and contemporary art of the United States. Focusing particularly on works by living artists, the Whitney is celebrated for presenting important exhibitions and for its renowned collection, which comprises over 18,000 works by more than 2,800 artists. With a history of exhibiting the most promising and influential artists and provoking intense debate, the Whitney Biennial, the Museum's signature exhibition, has become the most important survey of the state of contemporary art in the United States. In addition to its landmark exhibitions, the Museum is known internationally for events and educational programs of exceptional significance and as a center for research, scholarship, and conservation.

Founded by sculptor and arts patron Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney in 1930, the Whitney was first housed on West 8th Street in Greenwich Village. The Museum relocated in 1954 to West 54th Street and, in 1966, inaugurated its present home, designed by Marcel Breuer, at 945 Madison Avenue on the Upper East Side. While its vibrant program of exhibitions and events continues uptown, the Whitney is moving forward with a new building project, designed by Renzo Piano, in downtown Manhattan. Located at the corner of Gansevoort and Washington Streets in the Meatpacking District, at the southern entrance to the High Line, the new building, which has generated immense momentum and support, will enable the Whitney to vastly increase the size and scope of its exhibition and programming space. Ground will be broken on the new building in May 2011, and it is projected to open to the public in 2015.

Current and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Whitney Museum of American Art

Glenn Ligon: AMERICA	Through June 5, 2011
Dianna Molzan: Bologna Meissen	Through June 19, 2011
More Than That: Films by Kevin Jerome Everson	Through September 18, 2011
Breaking Ground: The Whitney's Founding Collection	Through September 18, 2011
Cory Arcangel: Pro Tools	May 26–September 11, 2011
Lyonel Feininger: At the Edge of the World	June 30–October 16, 2011
Xavier Cha: Body Drama	Opens June 30
Singular Visions	Through November 2011

The Whitney Museum is located at 945 Madison Avenue at 75th Street, New York City. Museum hours are: Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., closed Monday and Tuesday. General admission: \$18. Full-time students and visitors ages 19–25 and 62 & over:

\$12. Visitors 18 & under and Whitney members: FREE. Admission to the Kaufman Astoria Studios Film & Video Gallery only: \$6. Admission is pay-what-you-wish on Fridays, 6–9 p.m. For general information, please call (212) 570-3600 or visit whitney.org.

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