

The Museum of Modern Art

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GERALD D. HINES INTERESTS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY SPONSORS ARCHITECTURE SERIES AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Gerald D. Hines Interests, the national development company that has gained widespread recognition for its architecturally distinguished buildings, will sponsor a series of five architecture exhibitions at New York's Museum of Modern Art, Richard E. Oldenburg, Director of the Museum, announced today.

The exhibitions will focus on current developments in modern architecture and will take place at approximately one-year intervals. The series is the first of its kind at any museum in the United States to be supported by a corporate gift, and will include the publication of catalogues to accompany the exhibitions as well as lectures and symposia.

Work by the Spanish architect Ricardo Bofill and the London-based architect Leon Krier will be shown in the inaugural exhibition, scheduled for next June.

Commenting on the donation, Arthur Drexler, Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture and Design, said, "The unusual aspect of this corporate gift is that it responds to the need for long-range planning. Curatorial time can now be concentrated on developing an extended program of greater diversity."

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Entitled "The Gerald D. Hines Interests Architecture Program at The Museum of Modern Art," the series is an extension of the company's long-standing commitment to architectural excellence, evident in the number of leading architects it has commissioned to design its buildings and the critical praise many of these buildings have received. Included among the company's notable projects are The Galleria, designed by Hellmuth, Obata, & Kassabaum; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill's One Shell Plaza; Pennzoil Place and Transco Tower by Johnson/Burgee Architects; and Texas Commerce Tower in United Energy Plaza, designed by I.M. Pei & Partners. All of these buildings were constructed in Houston, Texas, where Mr. Hines first launched his development company in 1957, and serve to make that city an important showcase for recent trends in modern architecture. Houston remains the home base for Hines Interests.

"Architecture affects more people in more ways than any other art form," Mr. Hines said, in making the gift. "We who put buildings in place have a responsibility to better the environment and try to enrich the daily lives of those who inhabit and experience what we build. At Gerald D. Hines Interests, we have for many years devoted a significant amount of thought and resources to that philosophy. It seems fitting to help strengthen the public's awareness and enjoyment of architecture by this gift to The Museum of Modern Art's program of architectural exhibitions."

The series, according to Mr. Drexler, will be varied in content. "We intend, however, to give priority to the most interesting new work by younger architects."

Bofill and Krier, the two architects to be featured in the opening exhibition, are best known for very different reasons. Bofill and his

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firm, the Taller de Arquitectura, located in Barcelona, have come to the foreground in recent years largely on the basis of two major housing projects designed for the suburbs outside Paris. The developments are notable for their classical plans and details, and massive proportions, achieved through Bofill's imaginative use of prefabricated concrete walls.

The Luxembourg-born Krier's reputation rests on the strength of his ideas as an architectural theoretician and on the often beautiful and provocative drawings he has made to illustrate them. He has worked professionally with his brother, Rob Krier, as well as for the British architect James Stirling. In addition, he has taught at a number of universities, including Princeton and Cornell. Krier's ideas and drawings re-examine such issues as urban districting, building types, and public space from the perspective of architectural history, in a manner that appears fresh and new.

Gerald D. Hines Interests is among the top five companies in the United States in terms of construction-dollar volume. Today, buildings developed by the company have been completed or are under construction in cities across the country, including Boston, Hartford, Chicago, Minneapolis, Miami, Dallas, San Francisco, and Seattle.

Recently, Hines Interests has entered the New York City area for the first time. The company presently has two office buildings under construction in midtown Manhattan. The new headquarters for E.F. Hutton is at 40 West 53rd Street and is a joint venture with CBS Inc. This project has been designed by Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo Associates. Also underway is 53rd At Third, a 34-story granite and stainless steel tower designed by Philip Johnson/John Burgee Architects and developed in partnership with Sterling Equities, Inc.

For further information, please contact Luisa Kreisberg, Director, or Patrick Milliman, Press Officer, Department of Public Information, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York 10019....(212) 708-9750.
