FACT SHEET

EXHIBITION: MARIO BOTTA

DATES: November 20, 1986 - February 10, 1987


SPONSORSHIP: This is the second of five architectural exhibitions in the Museum's GERALD D. HINES INTERESTS ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM. Conceived to examine current developments in architecture, the program is the first of its kind at any museum to be supported by a corporate gift. It includes the publication of catalogs to accompany the exhibitions, as well as lectures and symposia.

CONTENT: The exhibition is devoted to Mario Botta, a Swiss architect from Ticino. It features nineteen projects spanning Botta's career, ranging in scale from domestic to institutional, including photographs, models, and original drawings.

Similar to Louis Kahn, who was a major influence on him and for whom he worked briefly, Botta's architecture reflects a concern with geometric order, construction, the texture of materials, and light. Botta is perhaps best known for a remarkable series of houses of modest budget and scale but of a powerful monumentality. While clearly modernist, they nonetheless show strong underlying links to the vernacular of his native Ticino as well as to the wider classical tradition. And like its best classical precedents, Botta's work both stands apart from and is rooted in its setting, whether it be the spectacular landscape of mountains and lakes around Lugano or the urban fabric of the traditional European city.


SYMPOSIUM: A symposium will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 8:30 p.m. in conjunction with the exhibition. Speakers to be announced.

PRESS PREVIEW: Wednesday, November 19, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

For further information, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.

No. 64A