

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT
THOM MAYNE AND MORPHOSIS

*"Throughout his career, **Mayne has demonstrated leadership** not only in architecture, but also in **the entire process of making buildings** – from an organic approach to **sustainability**, to the **integration of engineering principles** – and to **educating the next generation.**"*

DR. GEORGE CAMPBELL
PRESIDENT, THE COOPER UNION, MARCH 2003

"[Thom Mayne] creates buildings that acknowledge and celebrate the excitement of urban chaos and yet at the same time provide space created for the individual to celebrate his or her uniqueness. He has articulated this vision in buildings so very diverse in purpose, yet so necessary to achieve the quality of decency and enlightenment that we seek from our city."

TOM PRITZKER
MILLENNIUM PARK, CHICAGO MAY 31, 2005

*"Thom Mayne and his firm, Morphosis, have risen to prominence, if not dominance, by a kind of **guild-like work ethic** combined with a canny grasp of the forces impacting the field of architecture today, the ones broadly setting its priorities and delineating its goals."*

*Yet what concerns me here is what these buildings, and their underlying motifs, **contribute to the field of human knowledge**... The longevity of ideas– if they are innovative enough—exceeds that of the buildings they inspire... I cannot think of another architect or firm of the present era that has based its practice so much on hard-won principles of design that come from **confrontation with everyday realities in the pursuit of high art.**"*

LEBBEUS WOODS
"ALL WE NEED TO KNOW" RIZZOLI IV

Regarding Diamond Ranch High School:

"Clearly the best American building of the year. Thom Mayne's integration of landscape, sociology, psychology and architectural form shows how to construct community out of diversity."

HERBERT MUSCHAMP, ARCHITECTURE CRITIC,
THE NEW YORK TIMES, DECEMBER 31, 2002

Re: Campus Rec Center at the University of Cincinnati

*“The new student recreation center at the University of Cincinnati, by Thom Mayne, richly deserves such praise...what might have been a mere collection of gyms and pools, a typical college sweatshop, instead **offers an extraordinary synthesis of place – sensitive urban design, cutting-edge architecture and dazzling interiors**...here, aesthetic power is wedded to **social promise**, and the result is not a new icon preening in solitary splendor, but **a building that both expresses social connections and elevates them to the level of art.**”*

BLAIR KAMIN, ARCHITECTURE CRITIC,
THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, JANUARY 29, 2006

Re: San Francisco Federal Building

*“Not only is the Federal Building a notable new landmark in San Francisco’s rather sedate milieu, but it is also significant when considered in the broader context of new modern architecture in North America. Presenting an impressive and viable alternative to the banal, hermetically sealed workspaces... it is a spectacular demonstration project and **exemplar for the future**...the design team has created a building with a modest budget that projects a compelling vision of openness, utility and civitas. It articulates a radical shift from the norm across North America and restores the inspiring utopian view that long characterized the New World...”*

BRIAN CARTER
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW, JULY 2007

“The new San Francisco Federal Building embodies public architecture at its most inspired and inspiring.”

MARTIN FILLER
HOUSE AND GARDEN, OCTOBER 2007

About Phare Tower:

“The design for the Phare Tower in Paris is a work of sparkling originality that wrestles thoughtfully with the urban conflicts of the city’s postwar years...Mr. Mayne dug deeper into the site’s convoluted history to create a building of hypnotic power...”

*By embracing a populist lineage that stretches back through the Pompidou Center’s exoskeletal structure to the grand lobby of Charles Garnier’s Paris Opera, Mr. Mayne extracts unexpected beauty from this psychologically isolated site. **In so doing, he redeems a scorned area of the city while forging one of the most powerful works Paris has seen in a generation.**”*

NICOLAI OUROUSSOFF, ARCHITECTURE CRITIC,
THE NEW YORK TIMES, DECEMBER 4, 2006