

March 7, 2005

ASLA Board of Trustees
C/O Carolyn G. Mitchell, Honors and Awards Coordinator
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Nomination of Laurie D. Olin for the ASLA Design Medal

Dear Members of the Board of Trustees:

I wish to give my strongest possible support to the nomination of Laurie D. Olin for the ASLA Design Medal for 2005. I base this recommendation on having known Mr. Olin and his work for over twenty-five years. First, as a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania, then as a colleague in his office and as a faculty member during his tenure as Chairman of the Landscape Architecture Department at the Harvard Design School.

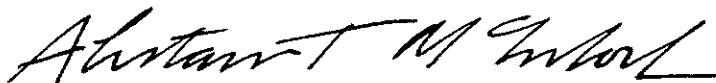
The landscape architecture of Laurie D. Olin is deserving of the ASLA Design Medal because it constitutes a coherent body of work dedicated to the creation of contemporary landscape environments that are fundamental explorations of the nature of particular sites, and the cultural and artistic values associated with these sites. It is a landscape architecture that enables one to make sense of the world and our place in the world through the creation of beautifully made places that bring renewed clarity to the daily actions of contemporary life.

Works such as Bryant Park, New York, Bishopsgate, London and the Vila Olimpica, Barcelona, embody a renewed sense of the particular nature of each local. They are scaled for human use and they are each made with an exquisite sense of the craft of landscape architecture.

Mr. Olin's teaching and scholarship have also made a vital contribution to the profession of landscape architecture. His students have gained insights into the practice of design that have guided their future careers. His writings have revealed the values and ideas embodied in landscape design and how these ideas influence the practice of design today.

I can think of no better candidate for the ASLA Design Medal than Laurie D. Olin.

Sincerely,



Alistair T. McIntosh ASLA RIBA
Principal