



March 8, 2005

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

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Dear Ms. Mitchell:

I am writing to express my strong support for Laurie Olin as a nominee of the ASLA Design Medal. It is hard to think of another candidate more deserving of this recognition than Laurie. Throughout his extraordinary career Laurie has been a leading champion of the landscape architecture profession, in academe, in professional organizations, and in his practice. His design works are of the highest caliber, consistently exhibiting a special attention to craftsmanship and beauty. Laurie has exhibited an unusual level of dexterity, moving with ease amongst a wide range of architects and other design collaborators and contributing in each case landscape architecture that intellectually and aesthetically complements its context. Laurie's intense curiosity and broad ranging interests have enabled him to practice across a wide stylistic range, bringing intellectual integrity to contemporary and historic landscape designs.

As the Managing Principal of a firm that often competes with Laurie's practice, my only hesitation in writing this endorsement is that it will strengthen our competition. Nevertheless I write it wholeheartedly knowing that it is fully deserved and that his life's work has broadened the field of opportunity and raised the design bar for all landscape architects.

Yours truly,

Paul M. Rookwood, ASLA, AICP
Managing Principal

PMR:pf