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Today's News - June 6, 2002

Today's lead news story is a bit of an anomaly: It's not a mega-million-dollar project. It's not in Los Angeles or Berlin. And it's not for Disney or the Guggenheim. It is a performing arts center for a small, prestigious college in the pastoral Hudson Valley - and it is designed by Frank Gehry (we might not see his Manhattan waterfront Guggenheim any time soon, but least he's on the right river).

Speaking of Manhattan...there's no letting up on the news and views about Ground Zero. Then there's the small(!) issue about the San Fernando Valley (and Hollywood) trying to secede from Los Angeles...and so much more.

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<u>Under Construction: Bard College Performing Arts Center by Frank O. Gehry & Associates [images]- ArchNewsNow</u>

Smithsonian Selects Firm to Plan Renovation of its National Museum of American History Building - Skidmore, Owings & Merrill- US Newswire

Low Offices Are Suggested for Towers Site: could be enlarged at a later date...Beyer Blinder Belle...to deliver six potential land-use plans for the site in July- New York Times

A mall magnate shapes rebuilding of Trade Center: The mounting anxiety among some civic leaders over Mr. Lowy's intentions marks [Australian Frank Lowy's] emergence as a major player in the jockeying over one of the biggest and most highly charged building projects in history. San Francisco Gate (via Wall Street Journal)

A huge skyscraper eyed for Ground Zero -- and why it might soar By Blair Kamin-Skidmore, Owings & Merrill- Chicago Tribune

Row rages over new Ritchie towers: Secret plans by lan Ritchie Architects for a tower cluster on a 'hugely prominent' London site...Southwark is threatening to force an international design competition...- The Architects' Journal (UK)

City Observed: Two Cities Observed - Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley: let's just consider the secession of the Valley... By Sam Hall Kaplan- KCRW

Polishing Up a Well-Cut Gem: In restoring the house [Charles Gwathmey] built for his parents, he is returning to the first project of his career, and the one closest to his heart. [images]- New York Times

Sheremetyevo Rebirth Slow and Tender: Big changes are afoot at the nation's largest -- and most maligned -- airport. Moscow Times (Russia)

Toward a More Perfect Union Square: Dowdy downtown S.F. plaza's face-lift nearing completion By John King- San Francisco Chronicle

Researchers Challenged to Improve Construction: "A \$30,000 BMW has more sensors and monitors on it than a \$10-million bridge"- Engineering News-Record

Most contemporary buildings are "crude products", according to RAIA President Graham Jahn- Infolink (Australia)

Streets Vanish From Master Plans- New York Times

EPRI sows seeds of plant-based waste-cleaning systems (GreenBiz.com)-Environmental News Network

'Consumption Barometer' to Help Keep Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development Green-GreenBiz.com

Deadline: August 12: 'JUNK LOVE' Art and Design Competition...for artists and designers working with re-used materials- AbsoluteArts

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