

Organizers:
Embassy of the United States of America
Tokyo Metropolitan Government
Morgan Stanley

The Landmarks of New York

PRESS RELEASE

The Landmarks of New York Exhibition to Open on Friday, June 9 at the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building South Observatory

Exhibition of 81 Photographs Underscores Importance of Landmark Preservation
in Sister Cities New York and Tokyo

Tokyo, June 1, 2006 -- A ground-breaking exhibition of 81 photographs of landmark buildings in New York, commissioned to mark the 40th anniversary of New York's Landmarks Preservation Act, will open on Friday, June 9. The exhibition, which is being brought to 45 countries around the world by the United States Department of State, highlights the vitality, diversity, and history of New York through its landmarks. It will run until July 12 at the 45th floor South Observatory of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government No.1 Building.

The free-of-charge exhibition is being organized by the Embassy of the United States of America, The Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Morgan Stanley.



“The Landmarks of New York”
Exhibition Poster
Photo: *Steven Tucker*

“I am very pleased that Tokyo is the exclusive venue in Japan for this wonderful exhibition which brings together photographs of 81 of New York’s historically significant structures,” said Tokyo Metropolitan Governor Shintaro Ishihara. “The two cities established sister city relations in 1960 and continue to promote a wide-range of exchange programs to this day. It is highly interesting to note that this photographic exhibition of the landmarks of New York, Tokyo’s very important partner, is being displayed in a featured landmark of Tokyo itself, the Metropolitan Government Building.”

Curated by Dr. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel, New York’s first director of cultural affairs and the longest standing member of the city’s landmark preservation commission, the exhibition features photographs of many of New York’s most famous and not-so-well-known buildings, locations and structures by a broad range of photographers and presents their stories and history.

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In addition to bilingual section texts and captions that provide an introduction to the main developments in New York's 400-year history, the exhibition includes interactive maps using Google Earth with satellite views of the locations of New York's landmarks as well as major landmarks in Tokyo.

A number of events will take place around the exhibition to create a dialog about the importance of landmark preservation, historical buildings and street plans to modern cities. These include a roundtable discussion "Landmarks as Urban Memory: New York - Tokyo" on June 15 at Tokyo University and public programs sponsored by the U.S. Embassy by Dr. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel and well-known author and Japanologist Alex Kerr in Tokyo, Kyoto and Okinawa.

"New York City and Tokyo are the world's two richest and most dynamic metropolises. Celebrating their sister city relationship, the United States Embassy has brought this exhibit here to display New York's success in preserving its architectural patrimony, and, more broadly, to illustrate the value Americans put on preserving our national heritage," said U.S. Ambassador to Japan, J. Thomas Schieffer. "We also hope to stimulate dialogue about how modern cities can build for the future while preserving the best of the past. New York City and Tokyo have many lessons to offer about maintaining and creating sustainable and livable urban communities for the 21st Century."

"With our deep roots and long history in both New York and Tokyo, we are delighted to have worked with the U.S. Embassy and The Tokyo Metropolitan Government to organize this exhibition in Tokyo," said Kensuke Hotta, Chairman of Morgan Stanley Japan Securities Co., Ltd. "Our support of this exhibition reflects our belief in the value of history and tradition to contemporary society, as well as our commitment to contribute to the economic, social, and cultural diversity of Tokyo and New York."

Further information about the exhibition and opening hours are available on the www.landmarksofnewyork.jp website.

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