

The New York Public Library News Release

For Release: May 10, 2002

***I on Infrastructure* Provides New Perspectives on Civil Engineering**

Exhibition Opening May 22 at the Science, Industry and Business Library Focuses on the Intersection of Infrastructure and Culture

Marrying technology and culture, the exhibition *I on Infrastructure* opens May 22 at the Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL) of The New York Public Library. With such materials as crushed stone and rusty steel, a Brooklyn-Queens Expressway sign, and images of the George Washington Bridge, the exhibition examines how the eye and the mind perceive engineering design. The items are showcased in settings inspired by works of such artists as Leonardo da Vinci, Jeff Koons, and Andy Warhol. *I on Infrastructure*, which marks the 150th anniversary of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), will be on view in the Science, Industry and Business Library's Healy Hall at 188 Madison Avenue from May 22 through December 14. Admission is free.

I on Infrastructure has been conceived to engage visitors with a broad range of interests, including technology, art, sociology, and history. It explores the intellectual, cultural, and social contexts that shape the world's infrastructure. Twelve installations are included in the exhibition, each focusing on a different aspect of infrastructure. Quotes from authors as diverse as Marcel Duchamp, Camille Paglia, and Antoine de Saint Exupéry accompany each installation in order to encourage the visitor to consider concepts that shape the way we understand civil engineering. These include changing standards of beauty, the relationship between nature and artificiality, and the longing for the imagined past.

The Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL), one of The New York Public Library's four research centers, is home to one of the world's largest civil engineering collections, and *I on Infrastructure* draws upon this collection. The exhibition has been curated by Gregory K. Dreicer, a former Fellow of The New York Public Library's Center for Scholars and Writers, and has been designed by Chicken&Egg Public Projects and Boym Partners. A lecture series related to the exhibition will be presented in May and June at the Library (see page 2 for details). A companion exhibition, *Me, Myself and Infrastructure*, which will be shown May 21 through September 15 at The New-York Historical Society, demonstrates how civil engineering impacts people's lives.



Communications and Marketing

8 West 40th Street,
6th floor
New York, NY 10018

Tel 212.211.7878
Fax 212.508.7439

www.nypl.org

***I on Infrastructure* will be on view from May 22 through December 14, 2002 at The New York Public Library's Science, Industry and Business Library in Healy Hall, 188 Madison Avenue at 34th Street, New York. Exhibition hours are Monday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; closed Sundays and holidays. Admission is free. For exhibition information, telephone 212.869.8089 or visit the Library's website at www.nypl.org.**

###

Lecture Series for *I on Infrastructure*

The American Society of Civil Engineers and the Science, Industry and Business Library present a series of lectures related to the exhibition *I on Infrastructure*, in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the American Society of Civil Engineers. All the lectures will be held in Conference Room 018, Lower Level, Science, Industry and Business Library, 188 Madison Avenue (at 34th Street), New York. The lectures are free and open to the public. Seating is limited and is available on a first-come, first-seated basis.

Thursday, May 23, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

New York City Bridges: Spanning From the Past to the Future. A slide lecture presented by Bojidar S. Yanev, Bridge Inspections and Bridge Management, New York City Department of Transportation, and Adjunct Professor, Columbia University.

Thursday, May 30, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Early Suspension and Truss Bridges: Design and Construction. A slide lecture presented by Professor Antonio Mattarucco, Istituto Universitario di Architettura di Venezia.

Wednesday, June 5, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The New Generation of Suspension Bridges Around the World. A slide lecture presented by Tom Spoth, Project Manager, Parsons Transportation Group.

Wednesday, June 12, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

State-of-the-Art in Tunnel Design. A slide lecture by Christian F. Ingerslev, Principal Professional Associate, Senior Project Manager, Parsons Brinckerhoff.

Wednesday, June 19, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

World Trade Center Recovery Site Engineering Challenges. A slide lecture presented by Peter Rinaldi, Engineering Program Manager, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Thursday, June 20, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Rehabilitation of New York City Dams. Michael Borsykowsky, Division Chief, Watershed Facilities Design; Lisette Gomez, Project Manager, East of Hudson Dams; and Paul Costa, Executive Project Manager, West of Hudson Dams, Bureau of Environmental Engineering, Department of Environmental Protection.

Wednesday, June 26, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Petronas Twin Towers and Evolution of the Skyscraper. (The Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia are currently the world's tallest buildings). Leonard M. Joseph, Senior Vice President and Principal, Thornton-Tomasetti Engineers.

###

This press release is available on the web at www.nypl.org/press.
Contacts: Rima Corben and Herb Scher at 212.221.7676
(rcorben@nypl.org, hscher@nypl.org)