



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **Teardrop Memorial to be placed at the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor**

*Bayonne*, March 9, 2005 - The 100-foot September 11<sup>th</sup> memorial, donated by Soviet artist Zurab Tsereteli, has found a new home on the Bayonne waterfront at the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor, formerly the Military Ocean Terminal.

The monument will be placed in the northeast corner of the Peninsula in a not-yet-built two-acre park that will face the site of the World Trade Center.

The memorial, which will stand the approximate size of a ten-foot building will be made of steel and sheathed in bronze. It will feature a fissure down the middle with a 40-foot-tall suspended teardrop. Entitled "To the Struggle Against World Terrorism" the monument was originally slated for installation at J. Owen Grundy Park in Jersey City before being relocated to Bayonne earlier this year.

"This monument is the perfect complement to the redevelopment plans for the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor," said Nancy A. Kist, Executive Director, Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority (BLRA).

"We eagerly await the addition of this monument to the City of Bayonne and the Peninsula and are extremely grateful to the Russian government for their generosity," Kist added.

Bayonne Mayor Joseph V. Doria Jr., recently said that a local committee, September 11 Bayonne Remembers, unanimously voted to place the monument at The Peninsula.

There will be nine steps leading to a viewing platform at the 11-sided black granite base. Engraved on the platform in gold lettering will be the names of those who perished at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania as well as those who were killed in 1993 Trade Center bombing.

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A groundbreaking is anticipated by this year's anniversary of September 11<sup>th</sup> and construction will be completed by 2006.

Tsereteli will pay for the cost of installation in Bayonne as well as the design for the park where the monument will be placed.

"It is my hope that this piece and the beautiful park that will surround it will enable people from all over the world to honor the potential that lies in every world citizen to fight evil and foster goodwill," Tsereteli said.

"This gift, from the people and President of Russia and me, embodies our countries' shared ideals to make the world safer and more beautiful for our children. In illustrating our shared grief, "To the Struggle" recognizes the heroism and sacrifice of those who died in the attacks on the World Trade Center and is a hopeful testament to the power of human strength," Tsereteli added.

Tsereteli's other works of art can be seen at the United Nations (New York), Rome, London, Moscow, Seville and Tokyo.

"Zurab Tsereteli's work celebrates the strength and perseverance that defines the human spirit, and the positive changes that can often rise out of tragedy," said Virginia S. Bauer, CEO & Secretary of the New Jersey Commerce, Economic Growth & Tourism Commission.

"The love we feel for those lost will never fade, and the presence of "To the Struggle" in Bayonne is an outstanding honor for the City and a beautiful, touching tribute to our loved ones who perished," Bauer added.

"We have worked hard for more than three years, raising funds and considering various design proposals. The committee has made an excellent choice," added Mayor Doria.

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