

# Michael Singer Studio

## Marine Transfer Station

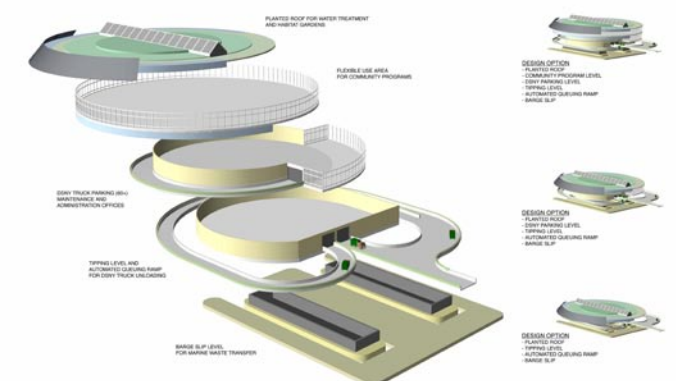
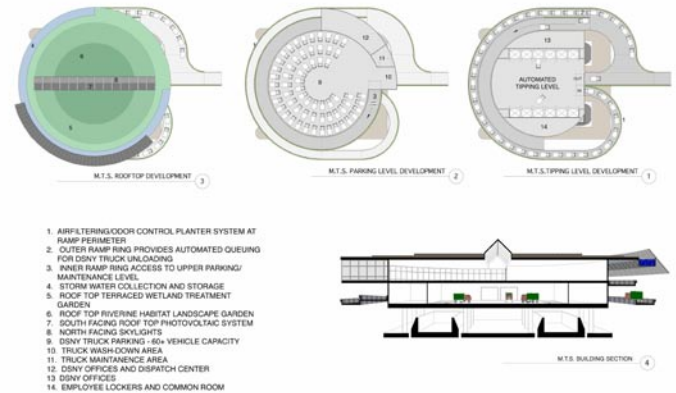
Manhattan, New York, 2004

In 2004 the New York City office of Environmental Defense asked Michael Singer to investigate ways a solid waste transfer facility on the city's waterfront could become an amenity to surrounding communities instead of blighted places with negative by-products of traffic congestion and air pollution. Mayor Bloomberg's Solid Waste Management Plan proposes establishing a network of Marine Transfer Stations that must pass the scrutiny of community boards and the city council. Singer's investigation revealed many strategies to transform an urban industrial waste transfer site into a place that is integral to its surrounding community in both function and form. The Phoenix, Arizona 27th Ave. Solid Waste Management Recycling Center co-designed by Singer in 1993 serves as a precedent affirming such strategies are possible.

Every aspect of the proposed Marine Transfer Station - walls, roofs, and interior spaces - supports its function. Water collected on the road and roof surfaces is stored in wall cavities for cleaning the garbage trucks and facility. Plantings along the walls and on the roof treat wastewater, remove odors through air-to-soil filtration and offer a flyway habitat stop for migrating birds. Solar photovoltaic panels generate power and reduce the facility's energy load.

The biggest community complaint of existing facilities has been the long queue of smelly, noisy trucks in local streets. The proposal provides an automated ramp system that accommodates more than sixty trucks. Upon entering the site, drivers would be required to turn off their engines to reduce noxious emissions. In addition, the land adjoining the Marine Transfer Station could be transformed into a spacious waterfront park and gardens for public enjoyment. Some of the ample interior space could be used for community activities, educational programs and offices for local organizations.

DSNY  
Marine Transfer Station Concept



SOLID WASTE TRANSFER CONCEPT  
Michael Singer Inc. OEST Assoc.  
ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE

