Community to Rally on Rizzoli's Last Day

M.T. (April 09, 2014)



On Friday, Rizzoli Bookstore will be forced to close its doors after 29 years in the six-story architectural gem located at 31 West 57th Street. In solidarity with those losing their jobs and in recognition of a city losing an important piece of our cultural fabric, Community Board Five is calling for a rally of support

This rally will be held Friday April 11th at 10:00 A.M. in front of Rizzoli Bookstore [2].

This turn-of-the-century townhouse, as well as its two adjacent neighbors, is slated to be replaced by a luxury condo glass tower after its recent sale. This comes as a hard blow to a community that has attempted to gain designation for this building from the Landmarks Preservation Commission since 2007. Last week, Manhattan Borough President <u>Gale Brewer</u> [3], together with <u>CB5</u> [4], hosted a press conference urging <u>LPC</u> [5] to hold an immediate hearing on the historical and architectural value of both the exterior and interior of the Rizzoli Building.

Community Board Five believes that New York City can continue to grow while maintaining a balance between preservation and progress, as many leading cities around the world have done for centuries. Showing our support for the Rizzoli Building is a small but imperative part of a larger issue: the future of our skyline and Manhattan's architectural make-up. We must cease this short-sighted development on 57th Street that comes at the expense of exquisite buildings that have only yet to be designated due to an untimely process.

We urge all who agree to join us for the rally on Friday!

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