

THE LIPSKI GROUP, INC

We propose three towering white limestone walls, reaching up to embrace the sky. Each leans on the other two for support. Together they enclose a triangular, chapel-like space, open to the sky above. As you enter through the space created by the learning stones, you are presented with the names of those lost in the tragedy of Flight 587, carved into the limestone.

Additionally, a message noting the piece as a memorial could be carved on the outside. It could perhaps read, in English and in Spanish:

TO HONOR THE MEMORY
OF THOSE LOST IN THE
FLIGHT 587 TRAGEDY ON
NOVEMBER 12, 2001

The upper portion of each inside wall is covered with mirrored stainless steel. As you look up, you see infinite reflections—of the space, the surroundings, and of yourself. These culminate in a miraculous sphere, seemingly floating in space. Created by the repeated reflections of the ever-changing sky.

Affixed to these mirrors are 265 pieces of Larimar, a beautiful blue gemstone found only in the Dominican Republic. Reflected over and over in the three mirrors, there will appear to be an infinite number of pieces receding into space.

From a distance, the memorial would present itself as a heroic, life-enhancing obelisk, marking the heart of the memorial. Surrounding the heart is a garden, bestowing upon the memorial a space with isolation, tranquility, and dignity. Composed of a seasonal grove of serviceberry trees and privet hedges, the garden simply and quietly sets the stage for the memorial. While the garden shelters the memorial from the surrounding context, it generates enclosure, forming an internal space for reflection, meditation, prayer, and personal reckoning. At the back end of the memorial garden, the tree grove is broken, letting the ocean's horizon act as a vast, infinite, and promising backdrop to the towering columns.