PRESS RELEASE

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Journeys: Travels Far and Travels Near
Drawings by Winston Close and Roger Martin; photographs by Roger Clemence
October 20 – December 19, 2008
Faculty/Alumni Exhibition Program
Architecture and Landscape Architecture Library

Left: Roger Martin, Il Canopus Hadrian’s Villa, Middle: Winston Close, Toulouse. Right: Roger Clemence, Snow Capped Suns in Winter, Clemence Farm, Wilson, Wisconsin

Most architects and landscape architects love to travel, but also love to document what they see by drawing and photographing. For them, the sketch book and the camera are the constant companions in their traveler’s bag. Each of the artists in the exhibition has traveled widely. The exhibition features selected on-site travel sketches, drawings, and watercolor paintings by Roger Martin and Winston Close while they traveled overseas via car, train, or bicycle, and photographs by Roger Clemence who captured the seasons and settings of his tiny farm in Wilson, Wisconsin. The Exhibition will be in Rapson Hall on the Minneapolis campus of the University of Minnesota with an opening party on October 24, 2008, 5:30 pm -7:00 pm, which will be free and open to the public.

ROGER MARTIN, FASLA, Landscape Architecture Professor Emeritus, has drawn since childhood, using this talent while studying horticulture at the U of MN, enhancing it
as a graduate student in landscape architecture at Harvard, and giving it even fuller expression as a Rome Fellow at the American Academy in the early 1960’s. When he was the senior faculty member in landscape architecture at the U of MN, Martin often traveled to Italy with graduate students and has always made drawings while there. Three of his sketches in this exhibit capture the observations of his visits to Villa Lante, Hadrian’s Villa, and Piazza Santa Maria in Transtevere. Martin also has found great inspiration in seeing, studying, and recording Mayan sites in Central America.

WINSTON CLOSE (1906-1997), FAIA, Architecture Professor Emeritus, set off, in 1930, on a four-month bicycle trip across France, Italy, a bit of Switzerland, and some of southern England. Rather than using a camera, he traveled with watercolors, pastels, a pen, and a sketch pad. When he saw something he wanted to record, he made sketches, signed, and dated the drawings. Born in 1906, Close turned 24 on the first leg of this trip, between Cherbourg and Paris. The selected drawings and paintings in the exhibition are from Close’s bicycle trip through Europe during this time. Close and his wife, Elizabeth, formed an architecture firm, Close Associates Inc, and worked together on homes and public housing. They met in 1933 at the MIT where they were both studying architecture, and married in 1939. Close taught architecture at the U of MN from 1946 to 1950, and was the university’s advisory architect from 1950 to 1971.

ROGER CLEMENCE, FASLA, Landscape Architecture Professor Emeritus, began his passion for photography in 1959 during his first trip to Europe. At that time, he was a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania focusing on architecture and landscape architecture with a special joy in seeing the world through a camera lens. Then, after earning his professional degrees, he continued to photograph. He found slide productions a perfect way for sharing design ideas with students at the U of MN, where he dedicated 45 years to teaching. As a professor emeritus, Clemence has begun to turn more to photographing his family’s farm in the Wisconsin village of Wilson, 30 miles east of the St. Croix River. The photographs in the exhibition include five winter and two summer scenes from the farm.

VISITOR INFO

RAPSON HALL INFO
The Architecture and Landscape Architecture Library is on the second floor of Rapson Hall, 89 Church St., Minneapolis, MN 55455.

Gallery Hours
The Library is open (fall semester hours) Monday – Thursday 9am - 9pm, Friday 9am-6pm, and weekends 1-5pm.

Admission and Parking
Admission is free. Parking is in the Church Street Ramp at 80 Church Street SE. The Ramp and Rapson Hall are both handicapped accessible.