As a current third year architecture student at South Dakota State University, I have found myself expanding my interests in process and technology. Starting in high school (Pierre, SD), I gained an appreciation for photography. It is a powerful art as it allows for a memory, an experience, or a beautiful scenery to be frozen in time. It’s a great tool when experiencing a new place, because it forces one to note the details. However, a single photograph may not always gather a sense of surroundings. My fascination with photography has progressed into an appreciation for time-lapses. With a set time interval, the lapse becomes a constant and allows for a better understanding of motion and time in a space. My proposal for the AIA South Dakota Enrichment Award is to travel to, research, and document Mies van der Rohe buildings in the United States via motion time-lapse photography.

The architecture of Mies van der Rohe is an inspiration. His work in the United States from the early 1940s to late 1960s is still being used as precedents in design. I find his design moves of exposing the structure, corner treatments, and use of the grid compelling. With his material choices of steel and glass, Mies took advantage of the progressive technology of the time. Having studied the simplicity and elements of Mies van der Rohe’s architecture, I have decided to research his architecture further for this project.

The goal of this project is to capture the life of Mies van der Rohe’s architecture and the modern surroundings. I will accomplish this in two ways. First, I will document all buildings via motion time-lapse during the day when they are at their routine occupancy. These shots will include the circulation of people and the continuity of traffic. I will place myself at strategic vantage points to capture the most important aspects of each of Mies’ buildings. Second, I will photograph most of the buildings at night when they stand solo with the contrast against the sky. Seeing architecture in its most lively and dormant states will provide for a valuable comparison. The discipline of architecture can benefit from this project as a way to document occupancy and use of a building after construction. This project will be a study of Mies’ architecture about fifty years after construction, but may be done in interval times for other buildings.

The outcome of this project will be many individual motion time-lapse videos with one final video summarizing the work of Mies van der Rohe and what sets his architecture apart from the others. Through this enrichment project, I will push to improve my photography and editing skills. I will travel east to most of Mies’ building sites in Chicago, New York City, Pittsburgh, and Des Moines. Traveling by car, I will explore places between these locations as well. My travels to these sites will be enriching as I observe the cities, cultures, and architecture in these locations.

My proposal consists of travel and documentation using motion time-lapse. Through this purely visual perspective, the life of each of Mies van der Rohe’s buildings will surface. By spending hours at a time at each of these sites, my observation and understanding of architectural elements and details would improve with the AIA Enrichment Award. This award would allow me to combine two of my interests in architecture school; the architecture of Mies van der Rohe and an experiment of documentation using time-lapse photography.

PLANNED SITE VISITS
IIT Campus: Crown Hall, Minerals and Metals Building, Robert F Carr Memorial Chapel, Alumni Hall
The Promentory Apartments
860-880 Lake Shore Apartments
Federal Center
Commonwealth Promenade Apartments
Esplanade Apartment Buildings
One IBM Plaza
Farnsworth House
McCormick House
Seagram Building
Melon Hall of Science
American Federal Building
BUDGET

$450  Equipment (camera rigs)
$520  Travel expenses to/in Chicago
$400  Travel expenses to/in New York City
$200  Travel expenses to/in Pittsburgh
$170  Travel expenses to/in Des Moines
$1740 Total expenses

SCHEDULE

06/14/2015  Travel to Chicago
06/20/2015  Travel to New York City
06/24/2015  Travel to Pittsburgh
06/26/2015  Travel to Des Moines
06/28/2015  Travel to Brookings
06/29/2015  Editing Process
08/28/2015  Submit presentation to AIA SD Scholarship Committee
09/2015  Present project at AIA State Convention
RESUME

Education

2011- present  South Dakota State University -- Brookings, SD
Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies, expected 2016
Minor in History

2007 - 2011  T.F. Riggs High School -- Pierre, SD

Awards

2014  College of Arts and Sciences Dean's list - Academic excellence
2013  TSP Spitznagel Scholarship
2013  Assisted with SD AIA Merit Award winning project (Mobridge, SD Riverfront Master Plan)
2012  College of Arts and Sciences Dean's list - Academic excellence

Leadership Roles

2014 - present  Department of Architecture Student Advisory Board Member
2013 - present  SDSU American Institute of Architecture Students -- Executive officer

Work History

2013 - present  South Dakota State University Department of Architecture
Wood/Fabrication Shop supervisor
Assisted with Mobridge, South Dakota Riverfront Master Plan
Assisted with Mobridge Wrigley Square design-build
Built and installed scale model of Huron, South Dakota
Constructed and organized student studio space

Contact

Email
Phone
Website
Address
06  Horizontal Project

07  Vertical Project

08  Vaulting Space: Tools and Technologies

09  Photography Samples
This project is based around the Farmer of the Year in SD and the Hobo Day Parade at SDSU. The winner of Farmer of the Year will reside in the Campanile on campus and lead the parade over a site in which the farmer will harvest their crops. The programs required include: a parade path, harvest path, transition spaces, tractor storage, grain bins, a cafe, and a stage. An axis of sidewalks is going N to S and another E to W. The cafe is positioned off the diagonal of the Campanile for prime view of the Campanile over the stage. The farmer is isolated on the south side of the site for him to have privacy while working as most farmers around South Dakota would understand. Keeping the students and faculty in mind, a grove of trees is placed in the NE part of the site for a relaxing/studying space. Spaces working individually and as a whole is very important to this project.
This project is a continuation of the horizontal project. The Farmer of the Year of SD is to reside in the Campanile on the SDSU campus. The Campanile is to include private viewing and public viewing spaces. Like the horizontal project, the farmer is isolated on the southern (bottom) part of the Campanile, but high enough to have privacy off the ground. Transitioning up the campanile, study/meeting spaces twist around the Campanile. A public viewing space and event space are located at the top. By overlapping the planes of floors, ceilings, and some spaces, different types of vertical space exist that contrast the open vertical space in the campanile.
This class studied different types of vaulting with a focus on funicular and Gothic vaulting. As a class collaboration project, we built a Gothic Vault using Hydrocal. With a complicated piece, the mold had to be built well and reusable. I set up and used the CNC to make two halves of a mold to be used to cast the tas-de-charge. We assembled the final vault as a class.

Instructor: Jessica Garcia-Fritz
Class: Arch332
Date: Fall 2014
Tas-De-Charge Team: Matt Sjurseth, Ryan Conrad, Kristie Moss

Gothic Vault final

(Top) CNC toolpaths model. (Above Left) CNC cuts. (Above Right) One half of tas-de-charge mold. (Right) Hydrocal tas-de-charge.
PHOTOGRAPHY SAMPLES