FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Don Gummer’s The South Tower newly installed at Herron School of Art and Design across from Indianapolis Cultural Trail

Herron alumnus and sculptor Don Gummer came back to Herron School of Art and Design recently to install his work, The South Tower, on the east side of Eskenazi Hall across from The Indianapolis Cultural Trail.

“It’s a tall, rectangular, vertically-louvered sculpture that starts to come apart at the top. It’s very simple,” he said. Gummer was on a corner across from the World Trade Center “...on my way to the studio when the attack occurred,” he said, “and I saw the South Tower fall. It’s seared in my memory.”

The juxtaposition of the graceful 10’ x 3’ x 2’ stainless steel sculpture to the horror it represents is thought provoking—especially a decade on from the terrorist strikes on the World Trade Center and other locations on September 11, 2001.

This is the second Gummer work that has been on temporary loan at Herron, and the second of the sculptor’s works currently installed on the IUPUI campus. The South Tower stands in the same place his work, Reunion, had occupied since the opening celebration for Eskenazi Hall in 2005. Gummer also was commissioned to create the recently dedicated Open Eyes for the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Eye Institute.

Gummer gave kudos to The Indianapolis Cultural Trail: “I think it’s a good thing. When you’re in a city, the smartest thing to do is get to know the city and its history. And if you are at all interested in public work, there’s just a wealth of information that is to be gleaned. The Cultural Trail seems to tie all that together and make it cohesive.”

Herron’s dean, Valerie Eickmeier, said “The South Tower will contribute to the ongoing dialogue about contemporary public sculpture. It is perfectly placed in Herron’s sculpture garden to engage visitors on The Indianapolis Cultural Trail.”

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PRESS CONTACT:
Glennda McGann
Assistant Dean for Development and External Affairs
Herron School of Art and Design, IUPUI
Eskenazi Hall
735 W. New York St., HR224A
Indianapolis, IN 46202
317-278-9477
gmmcgann@iupui.edu