



## **PARADOX OF PLACE: ON WALKABOUT WITH GENE EGGER**

LEXINGTON, Ky. (Aug. 24, 2016) – Translating our naturalistic world to a two-dimensional rendering seems counterintuitive, but it is exactly this – the sketch – that D. Eugene Egger has embraced as his medium for teaching students about visualizing the world around them.

With this in mind, the College of Design at the University of Kentucky has invited Egger – The Patrick and Nancy Lathrop Professor Emeritus at Virginia Tech School of Architecture + Design – to guide students on their own interpretive excursion in the Bluegrass Region. Students, along with the community, are invited to view Egger's past works starting Sept. 2 at the Downtown Arts Center in Lexington, Ky., with a personal lecture by Egger on Sept. 14 from 6-7:30 p.m.

"There is a conventional notion that sketches are marginally significant as preliminary efforts toward a final work of design," explains Egger. "This collection of sketches simply recognizes the valid, sometimes fragmented, layers embedded in any place."

His exhibit, "The Places of Place: Sketching the Encounter," will be on display during the Gallery Hop on Friday, Sept. 16, from 5 -8 p.m., and will run through Oct. 3. Images in the exhibit include experiential sketches from Virginia, Europe, Central America and more.

This exhibit is the first of many communal engagements planned by the College of Design. For Dean Mitzi Vernon, developing a fertile network within the community is one of her goals as she begins her second year at the helm of the college. With the college's new tagline – 38°84° the power of place – as its compass, Vernon continues to find ways to celebrate Kentucky and embolden the College of Design.

"Kentucky is a place with an unsung song," said Mitzi Vernon, dean of the College of Design. "There is great opportunity here to build something new onto a rich history of place."

And this place, whether it be realized through an original local Egger sketch or the global projects developed by faculty and students of the college, is positioned to be on the radar of those tracking the next revolution in design.

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