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ARCHITECT JOHN BURSE TO SPEAK ON THE CAREER OF EUGENE J. MACKEY III

ST. LOUIS, MO – The Sheldon Art Galleries presents “Gene’s Gift - A Portrait of Leadership,” a free gallery talk on Saturday, April 21, 11 a.m., by John Burse, FAIA, Principal, Mackey Mitchell Architects (MMA). Burse will speak on the career of Eugene J. “Gene” Mackey III in conjunction with the exhibit, *Remembering Gene Mackey (1938-2016)*, on view in the Bernoudy Gallery of Architecture at the Sheldon Art Galleries through April 21. Admission for the talk is free but reservations are suggested. Contact Paula Lincoln at 314-533-9900 x37 or plincolin@thesheldon.org.

John Burse will share insights on the core qualities that most distinguished Gene Mackey’s leadership of the firm that bears his name. From the perspective of having spent nearly 20 years working for, and alongside Gene Mackey, Burse will recount how his employer, mentor and professional partner directly inspired and influenced his, and many other architects,’ growth, beliefs and outlook. These insights transcend architectural practice, extending outward into all aspects of life.

A citizen architect with infectious enthusiasm, John Burse strengthens and advocates for community through activism, leadership and design. He guides Mackey Mitchell’s design work, applying this enthusiasm throughout all his projects. Working with universities across the country, Burse is an expert on student life design trends. Within neighborhoods, cities and campuses, his creativity and vision energize vibrant destinations that are welcoming and inspiring. Burse was inducted into the American Institute of Architects College of Fellows in 2017.

The exhibit, *Remembering Gene Mackey (1938-2016)*, pays tribute to the life and work of St. Louis-based architect Gene Mackey, founder of the firm Mackey Mitchell Architects, known for the Alberici Headquarters, a LEED Platinum building; the Central Institute for the Deaf; Dennis & Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center in Forest Park; Christian Brothers College High School; the design of the A. Wessell Shapleigh Fountain at the Missouri Botanical Garden; and the current renovation of Soldiers Memorial and Court of Honor.

The Sheldon Art Galleries are open Tuesdays, Noon – 8 p.m.; Wednesdays – Fridays, Noon – 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and one hour prior to Sheldon performances and during intermission. Admission is free. For more information on exhibitions, visit the galleries’ website at TheSheldon.org.

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