

Minneapolis Institute of Art

# The Art of Building: An Architectural History of Mia

# Mia

# Minneapolis Public Library, 10<sup>th</sup> and Hennepin, 1889



Robert Koehler, Rainy Evening on Hennepin Avenue, c. 1902



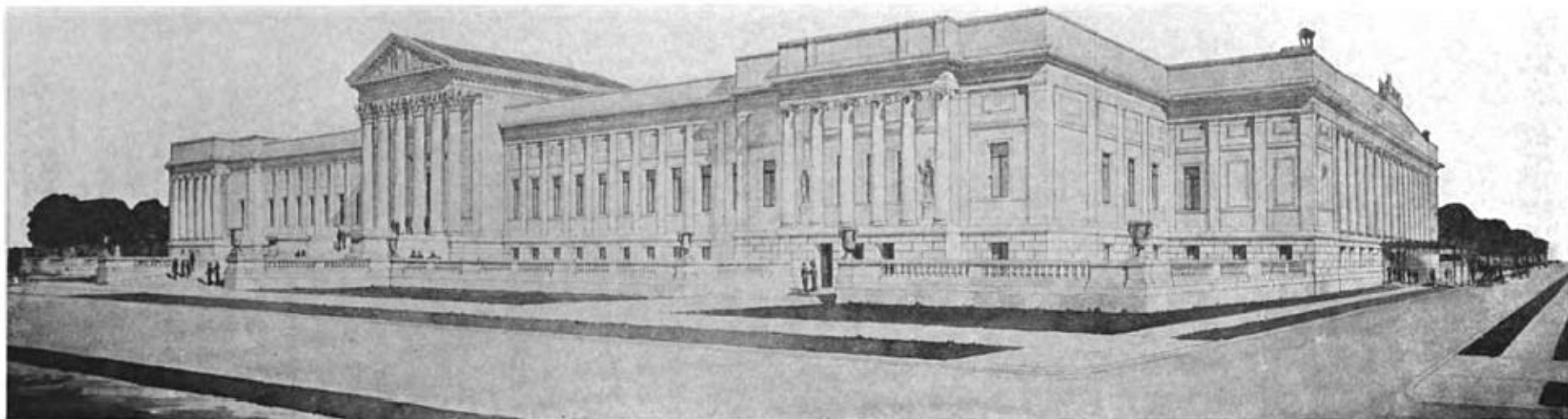
# Villa Rosa, Morrison family estate, 1814-1897



McKim, Mead, and White, Model for Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts,  
c. 1912

- Neoclassical, Beaux-Arts style favored for grand buildings of the time
- Central front section resembles Greek temple, with stairs leading to columned porch topped by triangular pediment
- Wing to right included an orchestra hall, wing to left a sculpture hall
- Semicircular promenade to house galleries and offices





*Courtesy of the Minneapolis Institute of Fine Arts.*

**THE COMPLETED INSTITUTE OF ARTS, AS SHOWN BY THE MODEL.**

The Museum is located at what will be the summit of Sixth Avenue. Its chief facade will dominate the parkway from Lake Harriet to the Museum and from the Civic Plaza to Washburn Park.

As built in 1915, Mia was one-seventh of original plan:  
monumental entrance and adjacent sections facing 24th Street



# White City, World's Colombian Exposition, 1893

Chicago Historical Society




GRAND BASIN AND COURT OF HONOR.



<https://www.minnpost.com/politics-policy/2017/12/century-later-minneapolis-failed-city-plan-still-resonates/>

PLAN OF  
**MINNEAPOLIS**

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF   
THE CIVIC COMMISSION

MCMXVII

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MINNEAPOLIS  
THE CIVIC COMMISSION

MCMXVII

## CITY PLANNING

### MEANS—

CONSERVATION OF HUMAN ENERGY and PRESERVATION of LIFE,  
particularly child-life.

NOT merely superficial beautification.

ECONOMY, necessity, scientific reality.

NOT extravagance, dreams, fads.

CONFORMITY to DEFINITE PLAN of orderly development into which  
each improvement will fit as it is needed.

NOT the immediate execution of the whole plan.

SAVING in COST of public improvements by BUSINESS METHODS for  
City business.

NOT the surrender of the City to artists with vague schemes  
for civic adornment.

CORRELATION of the City's activities.

NOT wholesale alteration at great expense, with no assured  
financial returns.

ENCOURAGEMENT of COMMERCE and facilitation of business.

NOT the interruption of commerce and business.

PRESERVATION of HISTORIC BUILDINGS with their traditions.

NOT the destruction of the old landmarks and City individu-  
ality.

The development of an AMERICAN City worthy of civic pride.

NOT imitation of London, Vienna and Paris.

The rule of COMMON FORESIGHT and prudence.

NOT the rule of chance with ruinous expense and debt.

HAPPINESS, CONVENIENCE, HEALTH, for ALL citizens.

NOT merely expensive boulevards and parks available only to  
the rich.\*

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\*MASSACHUSETTS HOMESTEAD COMMISSION.



UNTER DEN LINDEN, BERLIN.

**LANDSCAPE FEATURES**

The varying widths of the Sixth Avenue Parkway will give it an added charm through the diversification of the planting along it, as well as through the varied character of its other landscape features. A parkway of one width throughout is apt to produce an impression of monotony.

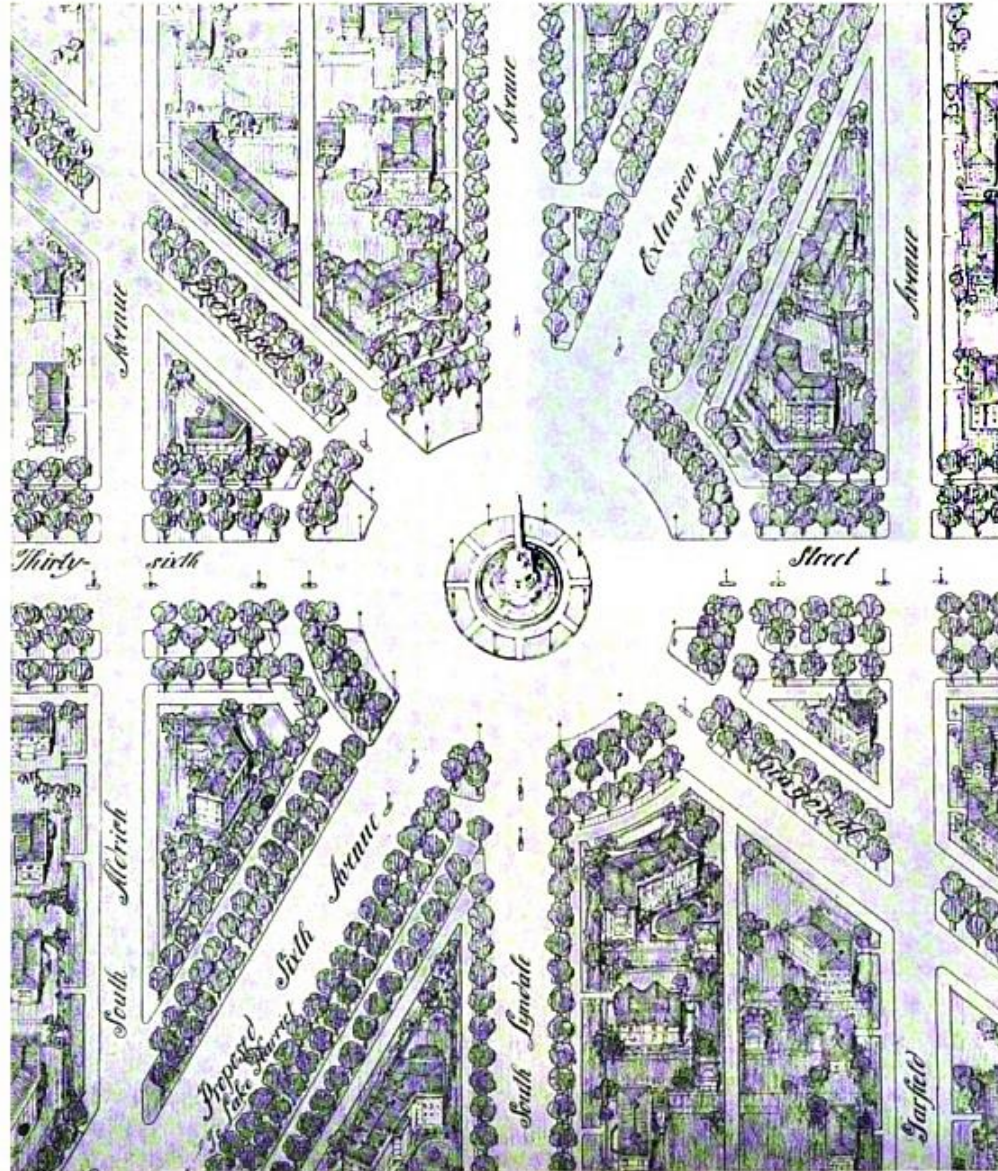
The planting plans must be carefully studied, as must the whole of what is technically called the cross-section; but a planted thoroughfare comparable to any now existing either in this country or in the old world is sure to come. Unter den Linden, Berlin, is a suggestion of Sixth Avenue Extended where its width is 200 feet; and the Champs Elysee, Paris, where that width is increased to 250 feet. The opportunity is here. We should know all that the makers of these world-famous Boulevards knew. We are their heirs and the heirs of all the ages.



THE GRADES OF THE CHAMPS ELYSEE, PARIS.

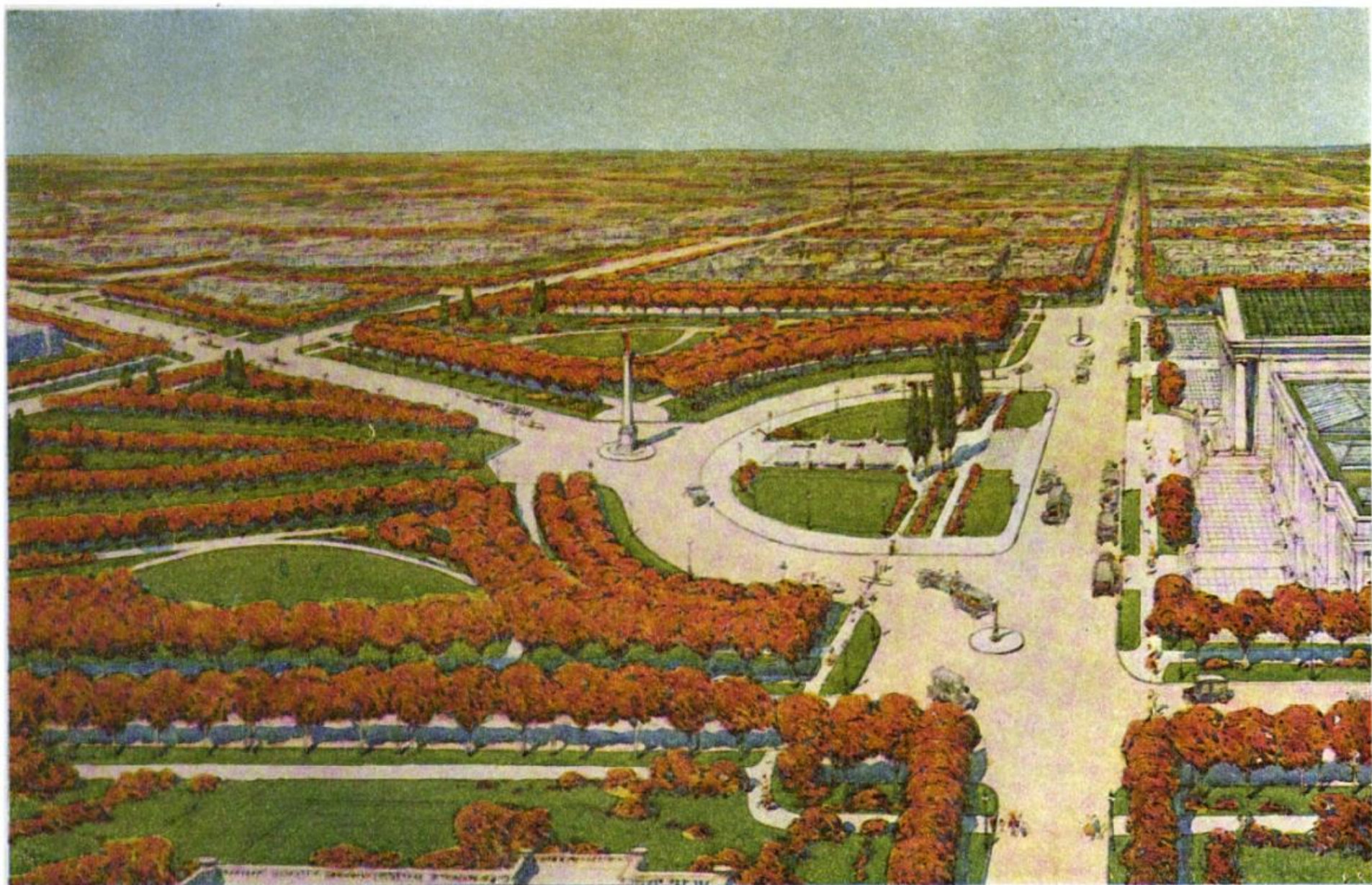
The grades of such thoroughfares are as important as the cross-sections and must be as carefully considered. The grade of the Champs Elysee is one of the least-apparent elements of its charm. Its slight but steady rise to the Arc de Triomphe is sufficient to give a view of its whole course as one enters it from the Place de la Concorde—a vision that is subtle but ineffaceable.

The Future  
Central North  
And South Axis



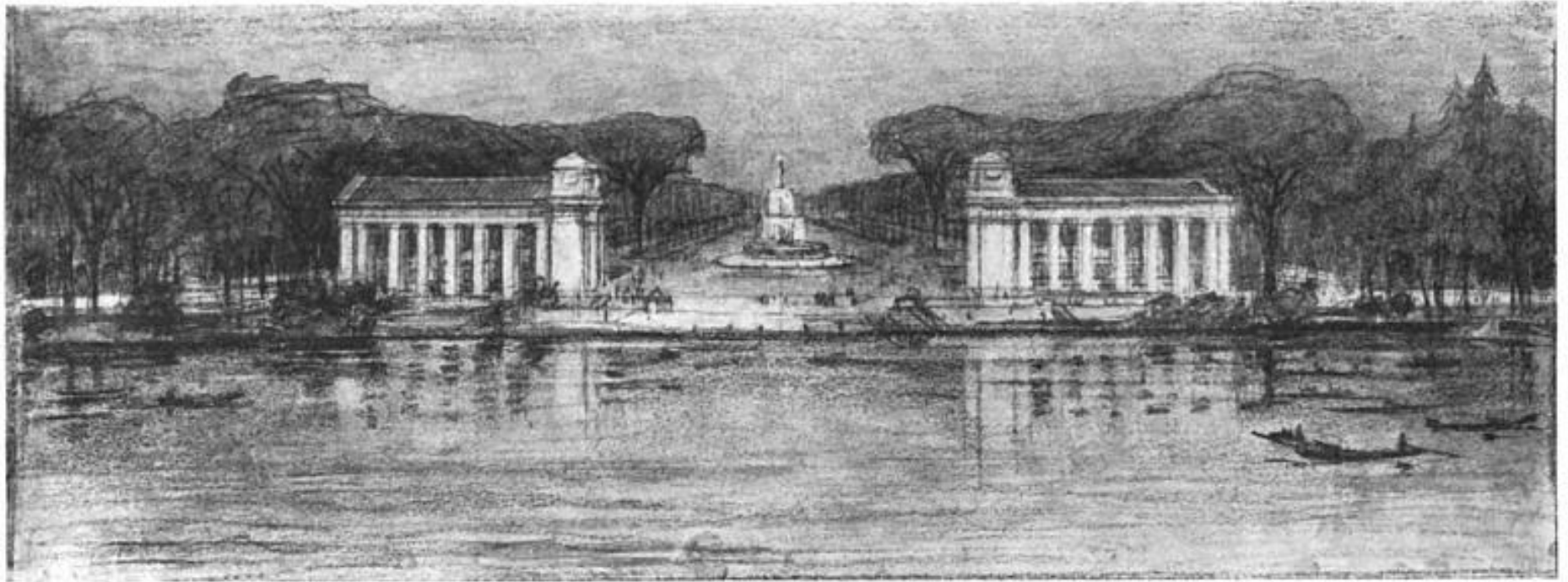
THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF THE INTERSECTION OF SIXTH AVENUE, THIRTY-SIXTH STREET AND LYNDALE AVENUE.

Traffic demands alone will compel a circulatory movement and advantage should be taken to produce a handsome effect.



*Rendered by Jules Guerin*

THE SIXTH AVENUE APPROACH TO THE INSTITUTE OF ARTS, THROUGH WASHBURN PARK.



#### THE LAKE HARRIET WATER-GATE.

This will form the southwestern entrance into and exit from Sixth Avenue. It will mark its junction with the water-park system of the city, and also with the southwestern roads that will rapidly become more and more important feeders to the chief northeast and southwest artery of the city.

Its charm will be entirely differentiated from that of any of the other attractions of the City.



VIEW OF THE PROPOSED AVENUE TO THE NEW CAPITOL AT SAINT PAUL.







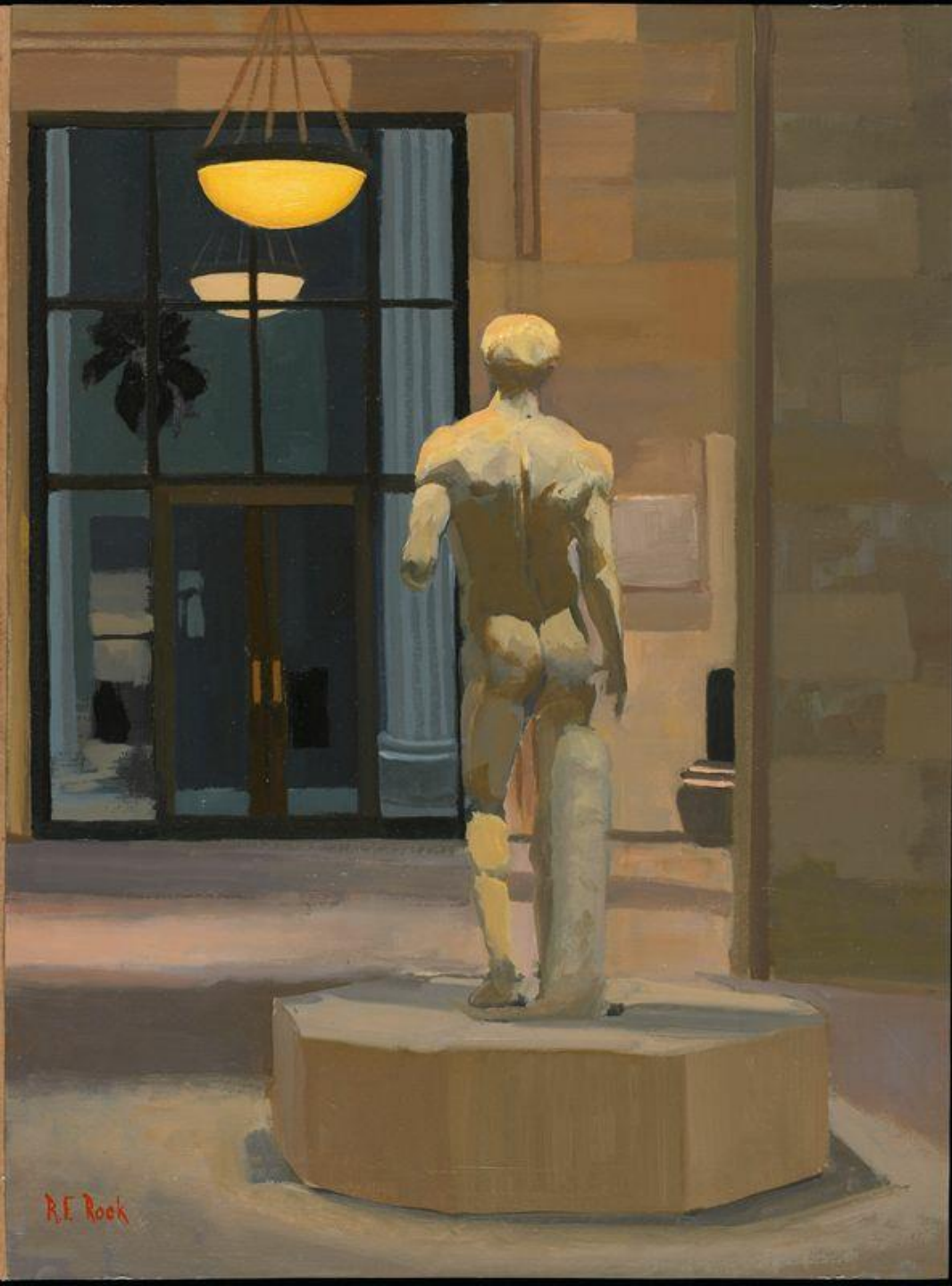



















A photograph of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts building, a large, modern structure with a white, textured brick facade. The building features several tall, narrow, dark-framed windows and a prominent vertical glass tower on the right side. The name "The Minneapolis Institute of Arts" is inscribed on the wall. The building is set against a clear blue sky, with a green lawn and a row of dark green bushes in the foreground. The lighting suggests a bright, sunny day.

The Minneapolis Institute of Arts



















**HANKS PERSONIFIED**  
Selections from the Katherine Karland Herberger  
Collection of Barks

Herberger Collection of Barks  
Katherine Karland Herberger  
1915-1995







































































