

## MONUMENT\*

Kevin Kuenzel\*\*

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It is perhaps an architectural dream to build a monument, a Parthenon, or a Washingtonian obelisk. The creation of structure to serve always as a memorial for its noble subject. An homage from the living, which links the eternal now to the heroic past.

Temple IX, an architectural assemblage from 1997, is a work by artist and Stetson University College of Law graduate Kevin Kuenzel. The work flows from his architectural training and education, utilizing techniques and formal concepts, but divorcing them from the constraints of structure. In mixed media, Temple IX discusses the grid, expression of structure, historical reference played against modern landscape. Creating form without forming shelter. Allowing the fragment to be viewed as the whole. Through the dialectical juxtaposition of ideas and the innate beauty found in objects, contradiction and coincidence are offered for exploration.

In life, form and function are ever combined, ever separated. Nowhere is this more self-evident than with a library. Existing itself as the monument, classic structure, and yet functioning as the custodian of the written monuments that comprise the law, life, and all of its lessons.

In this setting, Temple IX is dedicated as a conceptual monument to the memory of longtime professor, Calvin A. Kuenzel. With this gift, the family offers a harmonic image of a place for dialogue, suggesting discourse about classic principles against a backdrop of modern life.

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