

New exhibit to feature work by laser artist Rockne Krebs

An exhibit of work by laser artist Rockne Krebs, a Kansas University alumnus and Kansas City, Mo., native, is now on view at the Spencer Museum of Art.

“Rockne Krebs: Drawings for Sculpture You Can Walk Through” was scheduled to open Saturday and will be up until Jan. 5 at the museum, 1301 Mississippi St. A free curatorial tour of the exhibition, “Up Close with Steve Goddard: Drawings for Sculpture You Can Walk Through,” is scheduled for 5:30 to 6:30 Sept. 19.

Krebs is known for large-scale, site-specific installations — often spanning entire urban landscapes — created using laser and natural light “choreographed” through prisms, mirrors and electronic controls, according to the museum’s exhibit announcement. What remains of these ephemeral projects are Krebs’

drawings and written and photographic documentation, some of which are owned by the Spencer and on display in the new exhibit.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in sculpture from KU and serving in the Navy, Krebs began experimenting with lasers in the 1960s. One of his best-known works is "The Green Hypotenuse" of 1983, a 7-mile laser beam extending from the Mount Wilson Observatory outside Los Angeles to the campus of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.