

9-1-2010

Windows on the World

Furman University

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Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2010) "Windows on the World," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 53 : Iss. 2 , Article 4.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol53/iss2/4>

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Windows on the World

Ten years ago, Furman sponsored its first photo exhibit featuring student photographs from study away experiences.

The original exhibit, displayed in the Hallway Gallery of Roe Art Building, proved to be a major success — so much so that it has become a spring tradition on campus.

The idea, conceived by Jim Leavell, now Herring Professor Emeritus of Asian Studies, was to encourage students to appreciate photographic aesthetics, view the world through a more thoughtful, critical lens, and promote Furman's variety of study away programs.

The first study away exhibit was featured in the Spring 2000 *Furman* magazine. To celebrate the 10th anniversary, we have chosen to highlight it again.

The photographs presented here are from programs held during the last academic year. They are representative of the full exhibition that was on display in Johns Hall in March. The photographers provided a short description of the circumstances surrounding their photo. |F|

For more on study away at Furman, see page 24.



Ellen Gillis '11
Psychology

While in England I decided to visit Haworth, home of the Brontë sisters. I discovered that the only way to reach this quaint village in Yorkshire was by steam engine. When the train started to go around a corner, I decided to hold my camera out the window to get a good photo of the entire train as it made its way around the bend.

Emily Blinn '13

Psychology/Education

We had been walking in the heat all day and I was just putting my camera away when we came across these two little girls as we were leaving the Forbidden City in Beijing. One of my tripmates leaned over and said, "Ni hao" — "Hello" — as that was the extent of our Chinese language ability. The girls looked at one another, one said something to the other, and they burst into giggles. Apparently we were very funny or at least different enough to draw a smile. I fumbled in my bag for my camera and snapped them mid-giggle.



Lauren Kabat '11

Biology

I took this photograph while on the "Wild Semester," a Furman program that includes classes in field zoology, natural resource management and ecology, as well as many field research activities. I was returning from a backpacking trip in the Aldo Leopold wilderness to our base camp in the ghost town of Hermosa, New Mexico. We had hiked quickly to avoid the coming thunderstorm but paused for a minute to take in the beauty of the impending storm, blooming wild flowers and grazing mules. I particularly like this scene because it embodies the feel of the Old West.



Marissa Pavia '11

Spanish/Economics

At La Almudaina Royal Palace in Mallorca, Spain, this breathtaking view just beyond the darkened walls was perfectly previewed through the door frame.



Matt Dowling '10

Biology

At Mountain Zebra National Park in South Africa, vervet monkeys would always come into the campground looking for scraps of food from the previous night's dinner. They were extremely cantankerous and bold. They were cleaning up scraps right outside our food tent and were so intent on finding these treats that I was able to get close to them.

Cory Pansing '10

Economics/Political Science

We had just spent four days in Brussels with a packed schedule of briefings and lectures, and we had driven to Bruges for two days to relax. I took the photo that first night when I was wandering around town, decompressing from the previous few days. Everything was calm and quiet and still.



Amanda Evans '10 *

Communication Studies

After spending the morning touring the ruins of the Acropolis in Athens, Greece, a few of us were wandering the back streets of the city. I saw this wrinkled man and snoring dog and snapped a quick photo. It was the only shot I took of him. To me, this seemingly insignificant scene really captured the culture of the city. (This photo won second place, the Provost's Award.)

P.J. Moore '11 *

Political Science

I came across these two brothers sitting in the entry gate of Jama Masjid, a mosque located amid the chaos of Old Delhi, India. (This photo won first place, the Office for Study Away and International Education Award.)





Hillary Kies '10 *

History

In the fall of 2009 I participated in the Brussels internship program. During our break the first week in November, my apartment mates and I went to Paris. After a few troubles due to railway strikes, we finally made it, and over the next few days we did some hard-core touring. This picture was taken in the Louvre. It was an amazing time to visit Paris and the museums because no one was there. At times we were the only people in a room. (This photo won third place, the Dean of Faculty Award.)

Hillary Rodgers '13

Undecided

As our group was crossing over a canal in Tongli, one of China's oldest villages, I spotted a woman squatting over the murky waters, nonchalantly washing a raw chicken — presumably for dinner that evening. In that moment, I found myself as far from my familiar American culture as I have ever been.



Jonathan Britt '10

Religion/Music

Two pilgrims visit the Hosios Loukas Monastery near Mount Helicon in the mountains of Greece. The rainy day made it perfect for taking photos with lots of detail. While walking up to the courtyard outside the sanctuary of the monastery, I thought the arch made a perfect frame for the arched windows on the back wall, creating a sense of repetition. While I was framing the shot, these two elderly ladies walked up to go into the sanctuary. So as not to get in their way, I let them pass. I kept my shot framed while they passed through and snapped the shot right before they helped each other down off the wooden walkway. I thought the pilgrims added a reverent aspect to the picture, while all the arches make the photo work on an entirely different level. The fountain, umbrellas and water-soaked, reflective wooden walkway created a quiet tone that tied the entire photo together. While it stands alone as a beautiful photograph, the picture holds an added sentimental value, which I'll keep to myself.

