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Gallery 400 at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) will present the exhibit, "The Idea of Big," April 17 through May 11.

"The Idea of Big" will explore the scale changes inherent in the architectural design process. To clarify structural details, architects render small elements very large and conversely, architectural models present very big forms on a drastically reduced scale. The exhibit will feature drawings by 37 Chicago architects with new practices, including Anders Nereim, assistant professor of architecture and Paul Florian, adjunct assistant professor of architecture.

The show includes architectural drawings enlarged to nine feet by three feet and a model of the exhibit space in which the giant drawings are reduced to scale. The drawings range from buildings and towers to furniture, architectural fragments and purely abstract renderings.

The exhibit is curated by Laurel Bradley, director of Gallery 400 and Stephen Wierzbowski, adjunct assistant professor of architecture.

An opening reception will be held at the gallery on Wednesday, April 17 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Gallery 400 is located at 400 S. Peoria. Gallery hours are 12 to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. For more information call 996-6114.

"The Idea of Big" is funded in part by the Illinois Arts Council and Rite-Way Productions.