

Class Trip to Rome



Back row: Charlie McCurry, Courtney Beitler, Greg Connor, Geoffrey Barton, Kezia McKeague, Jamie Boscamp, Doug Hutton, Caroline Beasley, Matt Lowder, Whitney Roach, Kristi Marvel, Jeri Shelly, Mike Tomasino, Khadija Turay, Jessica Hancock
Front row: Emily Matheson, Kari Erickson, Alex Siavelis, Marissa Siavelis, Dr. Peter Siavelis, Colleen Siavelis, Mary Beth Wilkms

Spring
2003



Mary Beth, Khadija, Kari, Matt, Jess, Jeri, Geoff, Mike and Greg enjoy Southern Italy during Spring Break #1

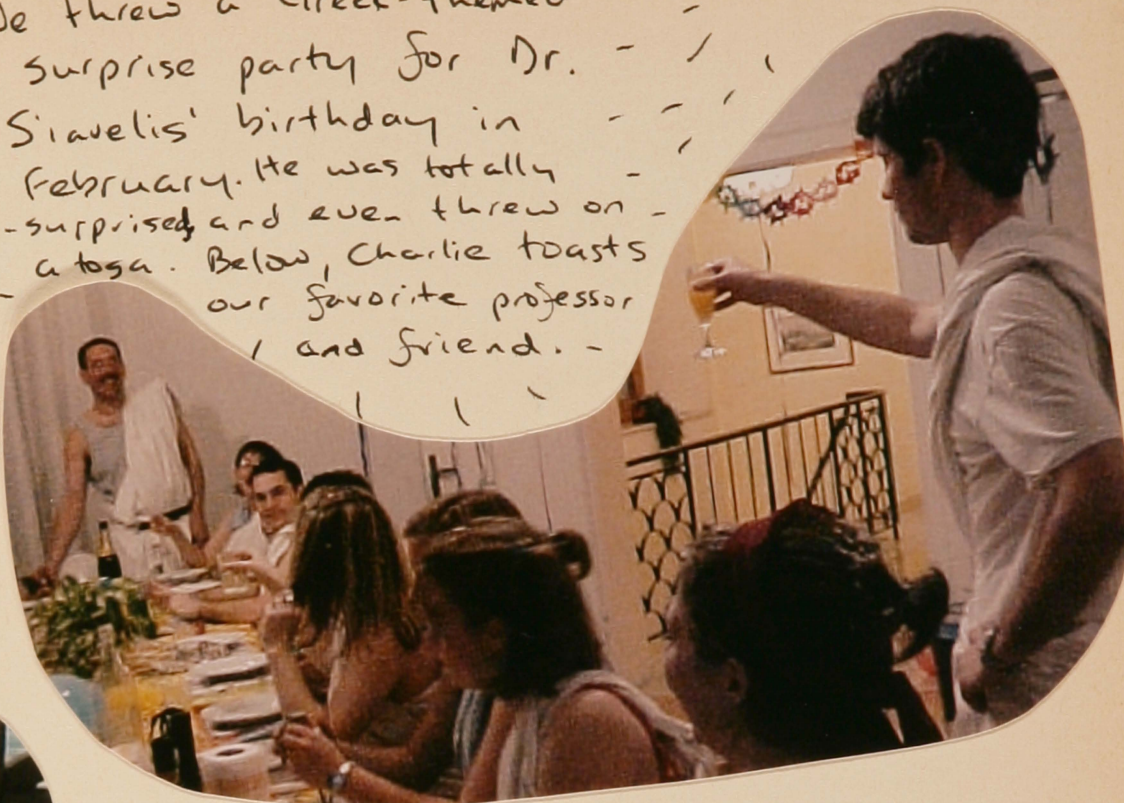


Emily, Whitney, Caroline, Courtney, & Kristi at Ae Oche



- TOGA! TOGA! TOGA! -

- We threw a Greek-themed
- surprise party for Dr.
- Siavelis' birthday in
- February. He was totally
- surprised and even threw on
- a toga. Below, Charlie toasts
- our favorite professor
- and friend. -



Marissa &
Alex enjoy
a picnic
lunch on
the Zattere



The boys loved their poker nights



The girls gather on the dock
before our last house dinner.

MILLE GRAZIE CASA ARTOM,

WE WERE ALL BLESSED TO BE HERE IN VENICE FOR AN ENTIRE SEMESTER. THE SPRING CLASS OF 2003 HAS MANY MEMORIES IN THIS HOUSE - THIS PALACE. TRY TO ABSORB EVERYTHING YOU CAN. SEE THE CITY, SEE THE COUNTRY, SEE EUROPE. APPRECIATE EVERY EXPERIENCE AND EVERY MOMENT AND YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF. LAST BUT NOT LEAST, IN THE WORDS OF DR. SIAVELIS, BE CONSTRUCTIVELY DARING. THANKS TO VENEZIA, CASA ARTOM, STAFF AND MY HOUSEMATES.

CHEERS,

Charlie Murray

To all who may follow -

I'm at a total loss for words, which is completely uncharacteristic of me. I sit in my room every morning and realize how blessed I was to have had this amazing experience. With four pages of quotes on the wall and countless Billa receipts on the door, it will be hard to pull them down and relegate them to a scrapbook. This city is like no other, and though it becomes familiar, don't let your fascination with it fade. San Marco, Rialto, San Giorgio, even some hidden campo only you found still deserve the awe and admiration of tourists and residents alike. And that's what you must become - a resident. Don't be the casual observer who merely sits down at a cafe to say they've eaten at an Italian cafe. Go to Gino's and have your daily coffee, but buy an Italian newspaper first in Campo San Vio. Find some spot that only locals go to and frequent it. Don't sell yourself short of everything Venice can offer. If you want to go somewhere but can't get a group, go meander around by yourself until you find what you're looking for. Go to church every Sunday - try a new church each week just for the art, architecture and beauty, but remember God as well. Speak Italian at least once a day; experiencing the culture without the language is no true cultural experience. Pay attention in art class, it helps immensely on your final interview. Get to know each person in the house before judging them; they will become your friends if you only allow them to. If you party, party hard and have fun doing it - just show up to class the next day and participate - it gains the respect of your peers and the prof. Go to the Guggenheim at least once, even if modern art isn't your thing (trust me, it's a welcome break from every Madonna + Child). Laugh loud, hard, and often. Don't play never-have-I-ever... please, just don't. I've heard that flipcup is the favored alternative by the females, however. Travel to at least one place that you had no intention of seeing or didn't want to go. Every place in Europe has one

element that will charm you and take you in. Enjoy life, but don't forget the people at home and school that wish you were with them. Value the friendships you gain here, cherish the ones that survive your time here. Stand up for what you believe in, and don't sell yourself short. (I already said that, it's important). This will be the semester that changes you - don't fight it but rather make it a part of you. Venice is awesome, but without us, it remains a city undiscovered and untapped. Don't waste a moment - that moment will be your only regret. Thank you to all who made this semester the best it could be - 

What's Up Casa Arrom,

Are you serious!?! You're living in a mansion on the Grand Canal, you have Italian to pretend that you can speak, you have a new Continent at your fingertips, so stop reading whatever I have to say and move yourself out the damn door!! I swear to God if you come up to me on campus telling me that you read this I could just snap and kick you in the chest. But if you're sick and have nothing to do to entertain yourself, here we go. Fall in love with your housemates, create enough inside jokes to fill a wall with quote boards, and take them back to Wake to show off to the ~~people~~ ^{people} you missed the most. DO NOT jump in the Grand Canal or go on the roof of the Guggenheim as it is STRICTLY FORBIDDEN. ~~See~~ See a concert in Amsterdam (among other things), explore the entire "boot", skydive in Interlaken, get drunk with the Irish, and eat fish & chips with the Scottish. You'll never be able to beat our house or our trip, but don't leave saying you didn't try. Enjoy it ladies and Gents.

Laaaataz,

Mike Tomasi

To my awesome housemates (I + now (7 new best friends),

Thanks for making this semester the most fantastic time of my life. I have learned so much from living here w/you all in this crazy circus mansion on the grande canal. Thank you to Dr S + family for putting up with the madness - you truly let us make the most of this experience - I will never forget it. Future peeps living in this "real caassaa" some words of advice - get to know Luciana + Marisa - chances are they are cooler than some of your housemates (j/k),

go to Scotland, eat fish & chips, avoid biting gondoliers - you will see them EVERYWHERE - & most of all - get to know Venice - even though the canal stinks, this city is the most incredible place to live - make the most of your time here. *Mille Grazie Venice!!* - Emily Matheson -

To anyone who reads this

May 2, 2003

Every moment I've been here is one that can never be imitated or replaced. It's been a joyous time. When you're here or on some random weekend trip follow your spirit without hesitation & don't lose sight of your convictions. Close your eyes... listen... breathe (but ~~maybe~~ not near the canal)... slow the world & smile because you are in Venice. Love it & the people you live with just as I did.

Shadi's Throw

Ah Venezia!

P.P.S. Greg: 

P.P.S. It's all glory baby!

P.S. Mindy, Cynthia, Caroline, & Martha Mae - have fun this fall!! 

May 2, 2003

I actually made it back, which I always knew I would, but never in a million years did I imagine my experience would be this wonderful. There's nothing to say in this book that hasn't already been said - from the witty to crazy to sappy to insightful. But I guess that's like the whole semester here. Chances are, you won't do something or go somewhere that no one else has done or been (unless your train splies and you end up in a random town!). So take your semester (or two if you're lucky!) and make it your own and above all make the most of it. Graduating early to come back here wasn't the easiest decision for me, but I can now safely say it was one of the best I've made. To my housemates: wow, you all are so amazing and inspiring. Thank you for your love and friendship. To Dr. Siavelis: Thank you for being the best boss, mentor, and friend anyone could possibly ask for. To Colleen, Thairat, Alex: thank you for allowing us to become a part of your family! Everyone in this house will always hold a special place in my heart. All of my love, *Constance Bente*

To my Housemates:

Thank you for making this such a special & wonderful semester! I will miss you all! I hope we can keep in touch after we graduate.

Casa Artom Spring 2003 Top Ten List

"Key Words & Phrases Guaranteed to Bring back Memories"

1. the bicycle & segue
2. baby Christ & the doggy
3. Carnavale & togas
4. ciao Dickey! & casa nove
5. Rome trip & the Rome Dance
6. what?! that's ridiculous! oooh! like it's my job! brrrup! voip! wicked...
7. munificence & fragolino (ok... so this might not bring back so many memories...)
8. mafia & psychiatrist
9. sgorppino & Taverna San Trovaso
10. una bomba del sesso

To future Casa Artomites:

watch out for "dog obstacles" in the streets & don't be afraid to speak to italians, you might make a friend

con molto amore, MaryBeth Wilkema

May 4, 2003

3:15 am

My advice to posterity: Explore this city until, ~~you~~ well... just don't stop. Discover the joy of ~~exp~~ finding your own favorite, random campo. Speak Italian.

Befriend Bruno. Eat at Bar da Sino often (or everyday like some of us!). Get your brain cut by Consuelo at the salon next to Sino's. Never forget how lucky you are to be here.

To my housemates, grazie mille for all the wonderful memories.

Ciao Venezia, ci vediamo

Kija McKeague

May 3, 2003

Casa Artom -

I came here in January with a lot of apprehension. It was not until the crazy night at San Trivasso that I knew this semester would be a blast. Every moment since then has been hilarious! Honestly, I don't think I ever have, nor will I ever again, laugh as much as I have this semester. To the Munich crew.. you were definitely what made this experience wonderful for me. Although I love Venice and all the wonderful cities we have been to, you will be what I remember 50 years from now. I love you all so much. Thank you for everything

♥-Kristi

Verona
Padua
Vicenza
Florence
Naples
Pompeii
Rome
Munich
Amsterdam
Paris
Brugges
Brussels
Prague
Budapest
Vienna
Innsbruck
Scotland
Ireland
Dijon
Interlaken
Capri

May 3, 2003

Ciao Venezia,

Well, as always, our time here is coming to a close. It seems almost like yesterday that I was waiting in the airport, scared out of my mind, to spend an entire semester with 17 people I barely knew. Now, I can call each one of them my friend. Looking back over the semester, I can think of wonderful memories I have shared and experiences worth a lifetime. How often do you make up in random German towns, or yell "I love Carnier" at Milan soccer games, or annoy people to no end with credit cards? This semester has been filled with love, joy, surprises, DRAMA to say the least, and most of all pure drunken **FUN!!** To all of you who are reading this book on some of your first nights here, please be open to any and all ideas and love Venice with the passion it should be loved with! Enjoy your time, but don't let a moment escape you that you haven't lived to the fullest. To all my close and dear friends, don't let this be the end, just the beginning to continuing our memories at WAKE.

MARCELLO

Giles
Franklin

Nicola
Fabio...

People to Watch out For

1...2...3...4

Francesco
Marco

Bruno
Mama Pore

Diego

Stefano
Bardagino
Marco

"Legolas"
Jacopo

Weird
Turkish
men

CHIN CHIN,

Carolina
Beasley

May 3, 2003

I can relate to the often repeated sentiment that the time spent here in Venice will pass by before you know it. In fact, I can remember the day that I arrived here like it was yesterday. Interestingly enough, I can remember all of the days between that first day and today with equal clarity. Every trip to Billa, to Bruno's, or to Bar da Gino has a distinct place in my memory. My point is that time will go by quickly no matter where you are. What makes your time here unique is that you will be so in tune to what is going on around you that you would have to be a complete moron to not allow every moment to become a lasting memory. It is up to you to get the most out of everything that you do, whether that is jumping out of a plane over the Swiss Alps, or having a late-night conversation with one of your housemates. The foremost lesson that I hope to apply to my life after I return to the U.S. is to simply not squander any of those precious moments. I owe everything to my housemates over the semester for the fact that I have so many memories to keep fresh in my mind for years to come. I sincerely hope that have been able to help them have an experience in Venice as good as mine.

Best of luck,

Greg Cunningham

May 3, 2003

If you are reading this as a newcomer to Casa Arton, let me just say that nothing in this book can possibly prepare you for the amazing experience ahead of you. I can't even begin to describe exactly what these last 4 months have meant for me, however I can offer a few suggestions on how you might go about having a similar experience. Go to Bar da Gino as often as possible. Go for coffee in the morning, then again for lunch, then again for an afternoon Spritz. In my opinion, there is no better place to be surrounded by Venetian locals. Speak Italian whenever you get the chance, even if it's not perfect. Find a good balance between traveling Europe, traveling Italy, and staying in Venice. Go on long walks, always discovering new parts of the city. These are the things that have meant the most to me, but the most important thing is for you to discover Venice in your own personal way. This experience is what you make of it. Finally, thanks to my housemates. You have all helped make this semester the best it could possibly be.

Ciao, Venezia.

Matthew Souders

May 3rd 2003, 4:30 am

I've been putting off writing in this book for as long as I can because of everything it signifies. As everyone does in their first few days at the house, I leafed through these books, anticipating what was ahead of me and drawing on the knowledge from so many that came before me. By signing this book, this entire experience becomes only a memory. For you, I am just another faceless name of a past Casa Artomite. Much sooner than you can imagine, though, you will be sitting down with this book, trying to sum up somehow everything that this experience has meant to you, even though you will know that there truly aren't words to do it justice. The only way you will ever know is to live it, and live it well. I can say that this place has changed me, but that can't even begin to describe it. I've seen and done so many things in these past four months that most people never get to in an entire lifetime. I've lived in a palace on the Grand Canal, I've looked out over the city of Prague from high atop a castle, I've biked the trails of the island of Capri, I've paraglided over the Alps in Switzerland, I've attended Sunday Mass at St. Peters in the Vatican, I've walked the amazing beaches of Spain, I've witnessed the ruins of the ancient city of Pompeii...and the list goes on from there. Through it all, though, it is this city that has touched me the most. Just don't let yourself get discouraged, Venice isn't the swarms of tourists and cameras, the hundreds of Murano glass shops, or the mob scene of San Marco during Carnevale. The true Venice can be found in the twists and turns of the calles, or on the Zattere on a sunny Sunday afternoon. Venice is the sincere ciao of Bruno, a late night slice of pizza at Al Volo, and the sleepy tranquility of the canals at night. The only piece of advice I can really give you is to let this place overtake you. Don't be afraid to be alone with it, this city provides some of the best company there is if you let it. Explore it, discover it, understand it. Know the short cuts, but don't take them. Enjoy every moment, it flies by. Ciao Venezia, you will remain always in my heart,

Jamie Boscamp

P.S. To my housemates - thank you for truly making this experience unforgettable

To the Siavelis family - you all are nothing short of an inspiration

To my dear friend Kara who will be here next semester - enjoy it, make me jealous!

PS: To Jamie, we was here
- Eurator '04 (Hannen, Linds, Farley, Steph, Dorsey)

And to all future gelato lovers - I challenge you to beat my record. You only get this chance once, gelato 3 times a day is necessary, not excessive!

May 3rd 2003

Italy

Verona Spritz

Padua
Vicenza

Capri "Red headed step children"

5⁰⁰ Am

To Ettore Alomino of Casa Antica,

Start smiling now b/c you are in for the Best semester of your college career. This semester - this city, the people I lived with have made my past 4 months unbelievable. Everyday I feel so fortunate to have had this experience, I am so lucky, and it you are reading this - so are you ☺. Personally, I have grown a lot & learned more about myself in 4 mths than I ever thought was possible. My advice to you; first get to know your housemates. I fell in love with mine & have made some amazing friendships - they are what truly ~~made~~ made this a special journey for me. Secondly, see every place! It is a beautiful & diverse place. But also, don't forget to see Italy & most importantly - Venice. This city is an enchanting place!

Lose yourself in its tiny calles & hidden campos. Spend time by yourself everyday - reflect - listen & watch the people. Make ~~new~~ friends in the neighborhood (Gino, Bruno, Stefano, Diego). Spend time outside - and as little time as possible in front of the TV. In the Spring, make good use of the side balcony with its cascading purple flowers. But most simply - Love your time here & I wish you as wonderful an experience as I have had. The Best 4 mths of my life.

Finally - To my housemates - You all have such strong enchanting personalities.

I love each & every one of you. You all are what made this trip so special to me. To my baby boys - you guys oodles & oodles.

- Jessica Hancock -

"Oh baby you know you want it!" Rome (Carnivale) Florence - wine town - do it!
Crazy Matt ~~laughing~~ ^{braking} Switzerland (skydiving or paragliding & night sled!)
Still

This semester had the potential great; instead, it was unforgettable! Thanks everyone.
In the words of a modern hero - the Terminator - "I'll be back."

Peace,
Geoffrey Barton

2nd Spring break
Scotland
Amst - clam (make use of spritz here)
Bar Da Gino
Ireland
The Easts
Hanging
Tas

Now
Nugget
Purple
Smoking
August
9-26-01

May 3, 2003

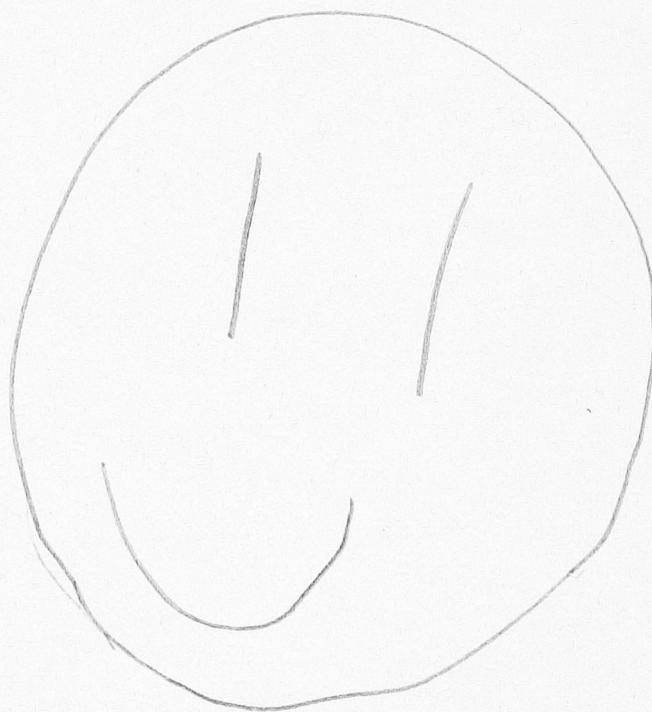
To all my housemates and all those to come. ~ If I could put this semester into words, I still probably wouldn't. Everything has been amazing/unbelievable. I don't want to spoil it. I've learned so much this semester; met some amazing people. To all those just arriving, don't lose a minute → go everywhere and take advantage of this fabulous city. A few recommendations: Baffo, Noir, Cornu Bar, San Traraso (yeah, the guys are a bit sketchy, but they'll show you a great time), Bruno's and Bar da Gino.
Motte Grazie per tutti ~ Buona notte bella città
Jeri & Shelly

Where to begin... this semester will exceed all of your expectations. Cherish every moment, to be cliché, not only in this majestic city, but also with your housemates. I couldn't even begin to explain, to go experience it with an open mind and an open heart. Learning about and becoming immersed in a different culture is (or will be) one of the most amazing experiences of your life. I can't wait to return to this city and experience even more of its splendor.

Whitney Roach

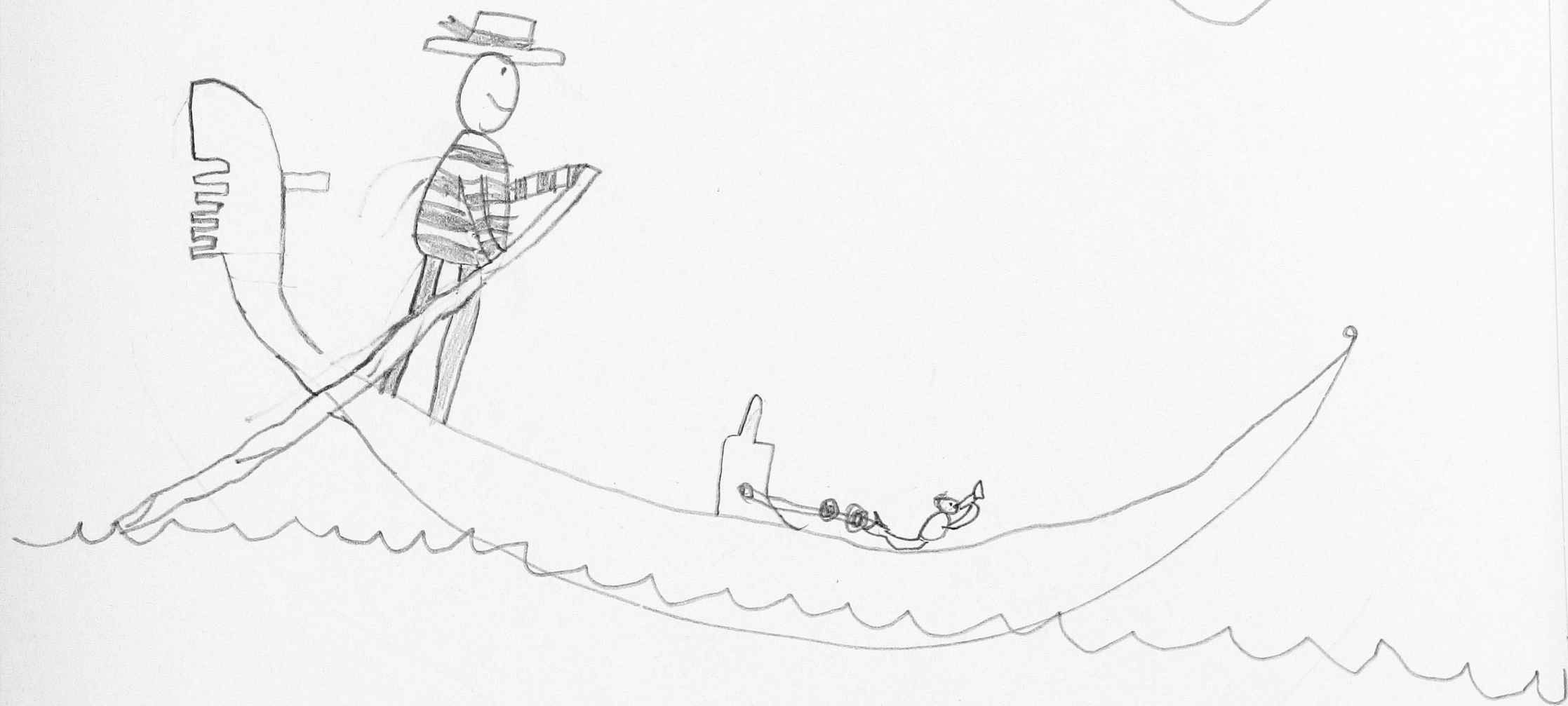
- * The Siavelis family - words cannot express how much we love you all
- * Luciana & Marisa - ~~brava~~ non posso dire quanto voi mi mancherete! (?) Sperò che aveste fatto il caso!
- * House peeps - man it was ridiculous! Thanks for all of the laughs :)
- * Things to remember: BWAAH!! (Axel!), nutshell!, mafia/psychiatrist night, Roma + hearing the Pope, Emily falling down the stairs, 1,000 = 5!, Bevilo bevilo bevilo!, Francesco Marco's muscles, "il fight crime + look great in tights!", the universal "il not finished taking pictures" sign, "Doug... what is so funny?", Oh my word, crazy circus, TOBA!, Jerg's stories, word.

MORISSO
SIAVELIS



Alex Siavelis

Ciao
Venezia!!



May 27, 2003

Like a Venetian ghost, I have returned to "La Serenissima." I studied here tredici anni fa nel 1990. This summer, my partner Robert and I were lucky enough to spend five days at Ca' d'Arzon. I enjoyed showing him the real Venice - and getting reacquainted with my old friend. Tutto cambia, e tutto fa lo stesso! Now there are cell phones and ATM's everywhere, but the heart and soul of Venezia survives!

Summer
2003

My semester here was the most magical and important semester of my college career. I was so lucky to have studied here! Now, as a professor, I look forward to possibly bringing my own students to Venezia. Molti Baci a Luciana e Maria!

Sincerely,

Dr. John C. Nardo, '92
Assistant Professor of Mathematics
Oglethorpe University
Atlanta, Georgia

jnardo@
oglethorpe.edu

S
P
R
I
N
G
2
0
0
3



SPRING 2003
(cont'd)

If you are reading this book...
... you know Venice is beautiful.
... you know Venice is unique and
... you know there is more art, history
and music per square inch than
anywhere in the world.

So we won't tell you about that. We just
want to thank our great group of students
for making this semester a wonderful and
unforgettable experience for our whole family, and
an incredible semester of growth and learning
for our kids.

Peter Stavelis
Carolyn Gordon