

# AVE MARIA UNIVERSITY



## REDEEMING BEAUTY: *Religious Works of Contemporary Artists*

A TRAVELING ART EXHIBIT SPONSORED BY THE FOUNDATION FOR SACRED ARTS

March 9, 2008 – May 12, 2008

The Foundation for Sacred Arts is proud to present *Redeeming Beauty: Religious Works of Contemporary Artists*. This juried exhibition features forty-seven works by thirty-six American artists living today.

We have chosen the title “Redeeming Beauty” for two reasons. First, the name reflects the mission of the Foundation for Sacred Arts: to inspire artists to pursue beauty, artistic integrity and sincerity in both subject and technique. In recent years, the art world has minimized the importance of beauty to a work of art – creating beauty has ceased to be the artist’s primary and central goal. The Foundation’s goal, on the other hand, is to reverse this trend, helping artists and others to rediscover the importance of beauty.

Second, the title points to the inspiration of this mission: Christ, the source of all beauty. Revitalizing the art of the Christian faith is a key aspect of the Foundation’s mission. Over the past two centuries, the art world has become increasingly secular, and the rich tradition of religious art has been, at best, marginalized. It is essential that in our day artists revive this rich tradition, proclaiming the faith through their work in ways that are fresh and true. As Pope John Paul II stressed in his Letter to Artists, “In order to communicate the message entrusted to her by Christ, the Church needs art!”

## Exhibit currently on display in the Canizaro Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

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