Good Friday
February 15 – April 26, 2009
opening reception
  Sunday, February 15, 2009  1:30 – 3:30 P.M.

MOCRA presents the second of two exhibitions celebrating
the museum’s first fifteen years. Drawing primarily on the
MOCRA collection, Good Friday considers the ways in which
artists have explored the events of the day of Jesus’ death
in their work.

Celebrating fifteen years
On February 14, 1993, the world’s first interfaith museum of contemporary art opened its doors. Fifteen years later, Saint Louis University’s Museum of Contemporary Religious Art (MOCRA) continues to serve as a forum for the ongoing dialogue between today’s artists and the major faith traditions. MOCRA is celebrating this milestone with two fifteenth-anniversary exhibitions that draw on artists and artworks selected from the museum’s 35 exhibitions. In Fall 2008 the first exhibition, Pursuit of the Spirit, set works by over 40 artists in dialogue with each other, exploring themes such as Sacred Spaces, The Sublime, Mother and Child, and Image and Text.

Suffering, compassion and unconditional love
The second exhibition, Good Friday, presents works by 30 artists who have used the events of the day of Jesus’ death as inspiration for their own reflections on such themes as faith, suffering, loss, compassion, and unconditional love. The selected works are drawn primarily from the MOCRA collection, and employ a wide range of media from painting and sculpture to fiber arts. Some works employ familiar images (such as Hans Holbein’s 1521 painting The Dead Christ in the Tomb) while others make use of traditional devotions such as the Stations of the Cross. Many of the artists translate the events of Good Friday to contemporary situations and draw forth a variety of insights, from the personal to the political. Artists in the exhibition include:

Peter Ambrose  Eleanor Dickinson  Adrian Kellard
Craig Antrim  James Ensor  Gerhard Knell
Gryphon Blackswan  Nancy Fried  Horatio Law
Edward Boccia  Ian Friend  Charlotte Lichtblau
Nick Boskovich  Daniel Goldstein  Stephen Luecking
Frederick J. Brown  Juan González  Jim Morpesis
Bill Christman  Luis González Palma  James Rosen
Salvador Dalí  Patrick Graham  Georges Rouault
Michael David  Steven Heilmer  Thomas Skomski
Douglas DePice  Tobi Kahn  Michael Tracy

A variety of programs will be offered in conjunction with the Good Friday exhibition. Please visit mocra.slu.edu to join MOCRA’s mailing list and receive timely notices about MOCRA programming.

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