

## Concerning the Spiritual in Art

### Tour Description

See Christian saints, Jewish heroes, Muslim rulers, Buddhas and bodhisattvas, Daoist immortals, Greek and Roman deities, and African kings and deities. Explore the varied ways humans have used works of art to express their religious or spiritual beliefs in global cultures.

**Tour Objective** This tour explores the ways humans around the world have sought to express their religious or spiritual beliefs in art.

**Means** Use a cross-cultural approach, unless the group requests only Christian art. This tour used to be called *Religion in Art*, so some people may still request this (as distinct from spirituality, which opens the tour up to wider possibilities). Discuss your approach with the contact person before a private tour.

### Themes

**From Humans to Gods** In considering the gods and heroes of religions throughout the world and through time, this theme can encompass Christ and Christian saints, Jewish heroes such as Esther and Judith, Muslim rulers, Buddhas and bodhisattvas, Daoist immortals, Greek and Roman deities, and African kings and deities. Consider these questions:

- How do humans see themselves in relation to their gods or religious figures?
- How do religious or spiritual beliefs influence artistic choices?

### Suggested objects:

- *Crucifixion*, c. 1180, 2015.69A-D
- Benedetto da Rovezzano, *Saint John the Baptist*, c. 1505, 2013.1
- Antonio Gionima, *Judith Presenting Herself to Holofernes*, c. 1720s, 62.45
- Ignazio Collino, *Judith with the Head of Holofernes*, 1750, 63.55
- Sébastien Bourdon, *Moses Defending the Daughters of Jethro*, 17<sup>th</sup> century, 24.3
- Kano Sansetsu, *Daoist Immortals*, 1646, 63.71.1, 2, 3, and 4
- Frederick William MacMonnies, *Diana with a Bow*, 1890, 64.62
- China, *A Gathering of Lohans*, 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century, 92.103.3
- Japan, *Amida, the Buddha of Infinite Light*, early 12<sup>th</sup> century, 2015.79.256A-C
- Roman, *Standing Deity Holding Horn and Bucket*, 1<sup>st</sup> century, 79.21
- Attributed to the Antimenes Painter, *Black-figured Hydria*, c. 530

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS:  
Concerning the Spiritual in Art

BCE, 61.59

- Bhora, *The Armies of Timur Combat the Forces of Nasir al-Din Mahmud Tughluq, from the Zafarnama*, 1595-1600, 2014.101
- Iran, *The Koran*, 19<sup>th</sup> century, B.96.4.2
- Aztec, *Chalchiuhtlicue*, c. 1200-1521, 2009.33
- Maya, *Plate (Maize God)*, c. 500-800 CE, 71.61.7
- Maori, *Post figure (poutokomanawa)*, c. 1840, 2001.65A,B
- China, *The Three Purities*, late 16<sup>th</sup> century, 2002.126.2.1-3
- Assyrian, *Winged genius*, c. 883-859 BCE, 41.9
- India, *Yogini holding a jar*, early 10<sup>th</sup> century, 60.21
- India, *Seated Jina*, 1108, 98.211
- India, *Vishnu with Lakshmi and Sarasvati*, 11<sup>th</sup> century, 90.67
- Thailand, *Walking Buddha*, 15<sup>th</sup> century, 31.115
- Ding Guanpeng, *Two versions of Bodhisattva Guanyin*, c. 1750, 99.171

**Symbolism in  
Religious Art**

Nearly all religious and spiritual art involves symbolic representations. How do these symbols differ from culture to culture and what importance is placed on them in each? Choices range from the Egyptian *ankh* to African crowns, from Christian, Buddhist, and Daoist symbols to Native American objects.

**Suggested objects:**

- Giuseppe Sanmartino, *The Archangel Saint Michael in Triumph and Saint Raphael with Tobias, His Dog, and the Fish*, c. 1780, 2015.24.1, 2
- David Teniers, the Younger, *The Temptation of St. Anthony*, 17<sup>th</sup> century, 76.31
- Jacob "Jack" Liebenberg; Designer: Chester Weston, *Half-circle stained glass window*, 1927, 2002.173.1
- China, *Kui Xing (God of Literature)*, 16<sup>th</sup> century, 98.67.5
- Netherlands, *The Ship of Virtues*, c. 1528-40, 42.15
- Japan, *Daiitoku Myōō, the Wisdom King of Awe-Inspiring Power*, second half 13<sup>th</sup> century, 2013.29.1A-G
- Japan, *Akiba Gongen, Manifestation of Mount Akiba*, early 17<sup>th</sup> century, 2013.29.112A-C
- Attributed to the Painter of Vatican 359, *Black-figure Neck Amphora*, c. 540 BCE, 57.1
- Yoruba, *Crown*, about 1920, 76.29
- Ancient Egyptian, *Funerary papyrus*, 10070-712 BCE, 16.675
- Edo, *Tusk*, 1775-1777, 56.33

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS:  
Concerning the Spiritual in Art

- Yoruba, *Shrine head*, 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century, 95.84
- Olmec, *Mask*, c. 900-300 BCE, 2002.127
- Ugahxpa (Quapaw), *Vessel (Underwater Panther)*, c. 1500, 2004.33
- Guanacaste, *Vessel*, c. 1100-1200 CE, 46.3.6
- Ligbi, *Do mask*, second quarter of 20<sup>th</sup> century, 2013.32
- Morocco, *Hand pendant*, about 1850, 91.141.17
- Monks of the Gyuto Tantric University, *Yamantaka Mandala*, 1991, 92.44
- India (Mughal), *Jali with pointed arch frame*, 18<sup>th</sup> century, 2000.78
- Iran, *Rectangular tile*, 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century, 50.46.458
- Djunmal, *Bark painting*, 20<sup>th</sup> century, 95.37.2
- *Malagan Frieze*, 19<sup>th</sup> century, 85.94
- Indonesia, *Ganesha*, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century, 2003.198
- India, *Uma-Maheshvara*, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century, 97.36

**A Matter of Life  
and Death**

Religious objects often reveal peoples' attitudes toward death, their expectations about the afterlife, and the ways they prepare for it.

**Suggested objects:**

- Lippo Vanni, *Crucifixion with the Virgin, Saint John the Evangelist, and a Clerical Donor*, 1350-1360, 79.19
- Italy, *Funeral torch*, c. 1720, 79.5
- Ancient Greek, *Grave Stele*, 5<sup>th</sup> century BCE, 31.4
- Roman, *Funerary Relief*, late 2<sup>nd</sup>-first half of 3<sup>rd</sup> century, 2008.28.2
- Roman, *Cinerary box with cover*, 1<sup>st</sup> century, 62.20A,B
- Ancient Egyptian, *Coffin and Cartonnage of Lady Tashat*, 945-712 BCE, 16.414 and 16.417
- Ancient Egyptian, *False Door*, about 2400 BCE, 52.22
- Edo, *Memorial Head*, 1550-1650, 2007.13
- Kalabari, *Funerary screen*, late 19<sup>th</sup> century, 74.22
- China, *Tomb retinue*, early 8<sup>th</sup> century, 49.1.1 etc.
- Nopiloa (Veracruz), *Yoke*, c. 600-900, 41.72
- Nayarit, *House Group*, c. 100-400, 47.2.37
- Colima, *Dog*, c. 100-300, 99.57.3
- Abelam, *Malagan Pole*, c. 1910, 68.9.3
- China, *Sarcophagus of Prince Yuan Mi*, 524, 46.23.1a-d
- Korea, *Attendant to a King of Hell*, 19<sup>th</sup> century, 97.122.2

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS:  
Concerning the Spiritual in Art

- China, *House Shrine*, 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century, 99.130a-h
- India, *Shiva Nataraja (Lord of the Dance)*, c. 1100, 29.2

**Saints in Art**

Use this theme for tours of Christian art. Suggested works include:

- Hans Schnatterpeck, *Lamentation of Christ*, 1490s, 2011.2
- *St. Catherine*, c. 1450-1460, 20.11
- *Madonna Enthroned in Majesty with the Christ Child*, late 12<sup>th</sup> century, 66.24
- Daddi, *Madonna and Child Enthroned with Saints*, 1339, 34.20
- Fra Angelico, *Saint Romuald*, c. 1440, 62.9
- Benedetto di Bindo Zoppo, *Saint Lucy*, c. 1410, 68.89
- Vincenzo Foppa, *Saint Paul and Saint Sirius*, c. 1460, 66.37.1,2
- Attributed to José Montes de Oca, *Saint Benedict of Palermo*, c. 1734, 2010.27.2
- Ethiopia, *Diptych icon*, about 1700, 2009.39.2
- Attributed to Lorenzo Costa, *Portrait of a Cardinal in His Study*, c. 1510-1520, 701.17
- Master of the Legend of St. Lucy, *Lamentation with Saint John the Baptist and Saint Catherine of Alexandria*, 1493–1501, 35.7.87
- Attributed to Nikolaus Gerhaerts van Leyden, *Mary Magdalene*, c. 1460, 14.8
- Lenckhardt, *St. Jerome*, c. 1635, 57.33
- Castiglione, *The Immaculate Conception with Saints Francis of Assisi and Anthony of Padua*, 1650, 66.39
- Honthorst, *The Denial of Saint Peter*, c. 1623, 71.78
- Vignon, *St. Ambrose*, 1623 or 1625, 68.43
- Salvator Rosa, *Saint Humphrey (Onuphrius)*, c. 1660, 64.2
- Boucher, *St. John the Baptist*, c. 1755, 75.8
- Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, *Penitent Magdalene*, c. 1650-65, 82.23

**Bible Stories in Art**

Review the slide set *Bible Stories in Art at The Minneapolis Institute of Art* before putting together this tour. Consider including some of the following objects, on view:

- Agostino Masucci, *The Annunciation*, 1742, 62.47
- England, *Adoration of the Magi*, 15<sup>th</sup> century, 2001.268
- Cima, *Madonna and Child*, prob. between 1500-1504, 55.4
- Segna di Buonaventura, *Madonna and Child*, c. 1310, 87.64
- Mariotto di Nardo, *The Coronation of the Virgin with Five Music-Making Angels*, 1408, 65.37

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS:  
Concerning the Spiritual in Art

- Giovanni Dal Ponte (Giovanni di Marco), *The Resurrection of Christ*, 15<sup>th</sup> century, 68.42
- Onorio Marinari, *Salome with the Head of Saint John the Baptist*, 1670s, 2003.117.1
- Abraham Bloemaert, *Shepherd Boy Pointing at Tobias and the Angel*, c. 1625-30, 61.30
- Sebastiano Ricci, *Christ and the Woman Taken in Adultery*, 1720s, 68.41.10
- Jacob Jansz, *The Presentation in the Temple*, c. 1490-1500, 68.41.1
- Tissot, *The Journey of the Magi*, about 1894, 70.21
- El Greco, *Christ Driving the Money Changers from the Temple*, about 1570, 24.1
- Titian, *The Temptation of Christ*, c. 1516-1525, 25.30
- David Teniers, the Younger, *The Prodigal Son*, c. 1640, 45.8
- Honthorst, *The Denial of Saint Peter*, about 1623, 71.78
- Rouault, *The Crucifixion*, early 1920s, 55.1
- Workshop of Joachim Patinir, *Rest on the Flight into Egypt and the Miraculous Field of Wheat*, c. 1518-24, 14.2
- Anthony van Dyck, *The Betrayal of Christ*, c. 1618-1620, 57.45
- Hans Schäufelein, *The Last Judgement*, c. 1510-1520, 2014.103.5