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NEWS RELEASE

'ARCHETYPES OF FAITH' FEATURES INSPIRED AND INSPIRATIONAL IMAGES IN UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON ART EXHIBIT

DAYTON, Ohio — When Constance Pierce sets out to create a new painting, very little of the image that ends up on paper is preconceived. Instead, the artist opens her mind and hands to inspirational influences — her Christian background, for example, and even a kind of communication she feels with her paints — which guide her to create an image that “reveals itself” as she works.

Pierce’s “Archetypes of Faith,” a collection of 17 monotypes on paper, is currently on display at the University of Dayton’s Marian Library Gallery. Admission to the exhibit, which will run through Aug. 25, is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and by special arrangement by calling (937) 229-4214. A “virtual” tour of the exhibit can be viewed on the library’s Web gallery at <http://www.udayton.edu/mary/gallery/pierce/banner.html>.

The Marian Library, which holds the world’s largest collection of printed materials about Mary, the mother of Jesus, is located on the seventh floor of Roesch Library on campus.

Pierce, an artist-in-residence at Yale University’s Institute of Sacred Music and the Arts, is known for her use of vivid and lush colors to depict archetypal images of both the Christian and mythical religious experience. She advocates monotype — the process of creating a print by transferring an image originally designed on a flat plate — as a means to evoke “unpredictable configurations and markings that are not possible by working directly on paper.”

“The quality of the marks may be disquieting and raw and at other times are suggestive and luminous,” she added. “Monotype is fertile ground for visual revelation.”

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Revelation also comes, Pierce added, through “manipulation” of the medium.

“I use brushes, rags and even my fingers to provoke the paint to speak back to me, to set in motion a creative dialogue,” she said. “An evocation of mood swells with an intensity of gesture and color, and the images begin to emerge. As I work, the figuration reveals itself.”

“Archetypes of Faith,” comprised of images from biblical narrative, features oils, watercolor, ink wash, collage and other media.

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For media interviews, contact **Sister Jean Frisk**, at (937) 229-4254 and **Constance Pierce** at constance.pierce@yale.edu.