

11-23-2009

## When Purple Meets All Other Colors

University of Dayton. Marian Library

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# Darel L. Sparling

When Purple Meets All Other Colors

November 23, 2009 - January 28, 2010

Sparling's paintings majestically present Christmas themes -- the dusk and dawn of new birth, mystic stars, and trumpeting angels. The Marian Library gallery, located on the seventh floor of Roesch Library, is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and on Saturday and Sunday by appointment.

Reception for Darel & Kim Sparling November 28, 2-4 PM

Proceeds from the sale of art benefits The Jesus Project for China.

Location: Marian Library gallery  
(Seventh floor of Roesch Library)

Cost: Free

Contact: 937-229-4214 or

<http://www.udayton.edu/mary>

Also visit our crèche exhibits first, second, and seventh floors. Special activities for children.

## SHORT BIOGRAPHY

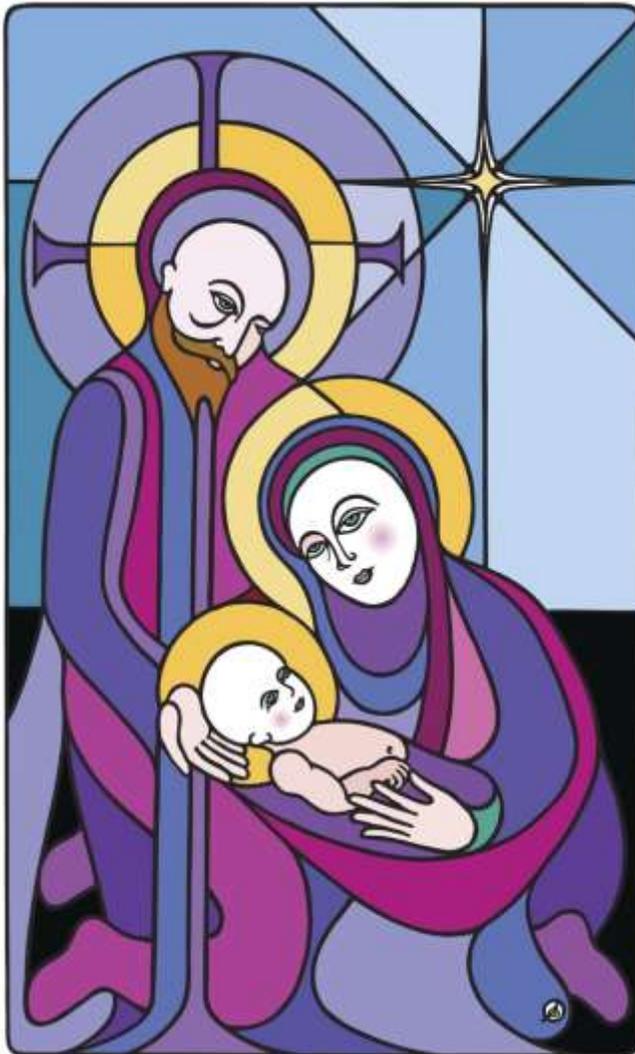
Although a California native, Darel rediscovered his passion for art after retiring on the Big Island of Hawaii. His entrepreneurial accomplishments include motor home and truck body design and production, steel fabrication, and convertible car conversions, with manufacturing facilities located across the United States and Mexico.

His educational background in architecture, design, and mathematics transcends into a unique abstract style. Darel's specific interest is in contemporary biblical art, which is intended to be visually intriguing and spiritually significant. He enjoys sharing the intricacies and interpretations of the art with his four children, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Darel and his wife, Kim, moved to San Clemente, California in 2004, but still maintain a residence in Hawaii. Since then, he has won multiple awards at San Clemente Art Gallery shows for stone and bronze sculpture, mixed media, and acrylic painting. Most recently, he won first place in mixed media and Best Holiday Theme in mixed media.

He and Kim also started a 501 (c) 3 charity/ministry – Creative Christian Imagery, Inc. Ninety percent of donations for the artwork, puzzles, and Christmas cards go into Christian missions in primarily China and Mongolia.

Darel pursues his artistic interests almost daily, and believes in creating new and unusual techniques to enhance his work.



ARTIST STATEMENT:

In 1982 during my morning prayer, I heard the Lord's voice speaking to my heart. Though not audible, the message was every bit as distinct...

*"Create My life in drawings, which resemble a collage. Draw My story with interwoven pictures, like a tapestry. And when you stand back, the individual pictures will blend together and everyone will see My face."*

At the time, I was intrigued, yet quite challenged. How would I accomplish this task? It was then I decided to seriously pursue my art. My passion was and is rooted in Christian faith. Although I had no formal training, I found that every time I put my pen to the paper, a picture emerged. Now inspired by the Holy Spirit, this facial image gradually evolved from an obscure artistic concept to a real work in progress. It was almost like constructing a giant jigsaw puzzle.

The result of that first concept twenty-seven years ago is entitled *The Divine Tapestry*. This piece (in black and white) was

hundreds of "hidden" or intermingled pictures from both the Old and New Testaments. All the pictures combined to make one large face of Jesus Christ. Most every sculpture, painting, or drawing I do is also a picture embedded in the *Tapestry*. I had prayed for a unique style, and over time I developed it. The *Tapestry* is now my signature piece.

Although I work in a variety of different media, my latest technique is incorporating holographic materials into my paintings. Like a prism, the holography creates a shift in color and perspective, depending on the lighting and viewing angle. I find this process a metaphor for my art—internal reflection resulting in external expression.

I believe my art should be visually intriguing, and spiritually significant. My desire is that each viewer experiences a curiosity to examine and explore the various symbolism and messages. I would also encourage the viewer to research the sculptures behind each picture's story.

Since that day in 1982, my wife, Kim, and I have started a non-profit 501 (c) 3 charity/ministry called Creative Christian Imagery, Inc. Ninety percent of all donations go directly to the Christian missions, particularly in China and Mongolia. I continue to expand on *The Divine Tapestry*, and will remain diligent in accomplishing His purpose through my art.

CREATIVE CHRISTIAN IMAGERY, INC. is a non-profit charitable, religious, and educational organization. The specific purposes of our organization are to: a) educate individuals by spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ through art and educational materials and by b) relieving the poor and disadvantaged.

The Creative Christian Imagery, Inc. program will accomplish gospel promotion by creating and distributing innovative teaching materials. Our organization will encourage artists to volunteer their time to design interesting and aesthetically-pleasing religious images and materials, which send a positive message about Jesus Christ and His teachings. We will utilize all forms of media to create our materials, including pen and ink drawings, posters, printed materials such as calendars and greeting cards, sculptures, book publishing, and multi-media projects. Each item will have a biblically-based message, emphasizing the gospel and eternal life. The items will eventually be distributed through the website, churches, and other Christian organizations. Artists will donate their time and no royalties will be collected on any of the items distributed. We will sell our educational materials at market value and donate the net proceeds, minus costs, to other 501 (c) (3) organizations. Before making a donation to a charitable organization, we will be diligent in ensuring that an organization is a reputable 501 (c) (3). Once a donation is made, we will closely monitor the use of the funds and require reports so that we can ensure that the money is being used to further our charitable goals. We will also solicit private donations to supplement our costs, so that we can provide our materials to those who want to learn more about the teachings of Jesus Christ, but cannot afford to make a contribution.