

Brigham Young University
Museum of Art
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July 13, 2010

To: Members of the Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable

Dear Roundtable Members,

James Tissot: The Life of Christ
June 18, 2010 – January 9, 2011

Brigham Young University Museum of Art would like to make you aware of a new exhibition of religious art, *James Tissot: The Life of Christ*. This exhibition of 124 beautiful watercolors tells the story of Jesus Christ and, at the same time, presents a faithful artist's personal expression of love and faith. It is free and open to the public.

Born in France, Tissot (1836-1902) had a successful artistic career in Paris before going to London in the 1870s, where he established himself as a renowned painter of London society. After experiencing a religious vision in the Church of St. Sulpice in Paris in the 1880s, he embraced his religious heritage and embarked on an ambitious ten-year project to illustrate the New Testament.

The creation of these paintings was an act of faith and devotion for Tissot. He traveled to Egypt, Syria, and Palestine in 1886–87 and 1889 to sketch the landscape, architecture, customs, and people of the region. His careful and frequent study of the New Testament informed his artistic work and resulted in an abridged version of the New Testament illustrated with reproductions of his watercolors and the artist's own written commentary on the Gospel accounts.

The Brooklyn Museum organized this traveling exhibition from its collection of 350 New Testament illustrations by Tissot, which were acquired by public subscription in 1901. *James Tissot: The Life of Christ* was made possible, in part, with a generous award from the National Endowment for the Arts. It will be on view in the Conway A. Ashton & Carl E. Jackman Gallery on the museum's lower level during regular museum hours.

For more information about the exhibition, please consult the museum website at <http://moa.byu.edu> or call (801) 422-1140.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Campbell B. Gray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Campbell B. Gray, Director
Brigham Young University Museum of Art