



Tibetan Mandala by The Mystical Arts of Tibet

Target Wednesday After Hours Series Continues with Lecture by Gelek Rinpoche and Tibetan Mandala Closing Ceremony

Miami, FL (December 4, 2009) – The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum’s free monthly event series, Target Wednesday After Hours, continues with a lecture entitled “Engaging Wisdom and Compassion” by Venerable Gelek Rinpoche and

the Mandala closing ceremony by the Monks of the Deprung Loseling Monastery. The event, free and open to the public, will be held at The Frost Art Museum at FIU on January 6, 2010 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Born in 1939 in Lhasa, Tibet, Gelek Rinpoche has played a crucial role in the survival and transmission of traditional Tibetan Buddhism. Mentored by some of Tibet’s greatest Buddhist masters, he is among the last generation of Tibetan Lamas fully trained in ‘Old Tibet’, pre-1959. Rinpoche is an internationally recognized spiritual teacher and bestselling author of *Good Life, Good Death* and *The Tara Box: Rituals for Healing and Protection from the Female Buddha*, as well as over 30 teaching transcripts. He is also the founder and spiritual director of Jewel Heart. (www.jewelheart.org)

The Monks of the Deprung Loseling Monastery, on tour with The Mystical Arts of Tibet, will deconstruct the Mandala during the Mandala closing ceremony. The Mandala of colored powders, or *dul-tson-kyil-khor* in Tibetan, is an ancient Tantric Buddhist art form created for the purpose of healing and re-consecrating the earth. The Monks painstakingly created the Mandala by carefully laying grains of colored sand in iconographic patterns and geometric shapes over a three day period. The Mandala will be dispersed into a local body of water, in order to disseminate the Mandala’s healing properties. This event is co-sponsored by FIU’s Program in the Study of Spirituality, Asian Studies and The Theta Alpha Kappa Religious Honors Society.

Target has teamed up with The Frost Art Museum to sponsor an event series designed to complement The Frost’s exhibitions. These events give visitors the chance to meet contemporary artists and engage with controversial art, live music, talks, films, dance, and performance art, while providing an excellent opportunity to socialize with other people interested in the arts. For information on future Target Wednesday After Hours, please visit <http://thefrost.fiu.edu/wah.htm>

What: Target Wednesday After Hours: Mandala De-Construction and Gelek Rinpoche Lecture

Where: The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum

**10975 SW 17 Street
Miami, FL 33199**

**When: Wednesday, January 6, 2010
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

Free and open to the public.

More information at <http://thefrost.fiu.edu> or 305.348.2890

About The Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum at Florida International University

The Frost Art Museum opened its current 46,000-square-foot state of the art building in November, 2008. Over **27,000** people have visited The Museum in its new building since its opening. Admission to The Museum is always free. Currently on view at The Frost Art Museum, *The Missing Peace: Artists Consider the Dalai Lama*, and *Lacuna in testimony*. The Frost is an AAM accredited museum and Smithsonian affiliate and is located at 10975 SW 17th St across from the Blue garage and adjacent to the Wertheim Performing Arts Center on the Modesto A. Maidique Campus. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday noon-5 p.m. Closed on Mondays and most legal holidays. For more information, please visit <http://thefrost.fiu.edu> or call 305-348-2890.

About the Program in the Study of Spirituality

FIU is the first university in the world to offer an undergraduate certificate program in the study of spirituality. The new program is an outgrowth of the Dalai Lama's first visit to FIU in 1999, when the Tibetan religious leader challenged institutions of higher learning to train the "warm heart" as well as the "good brain." The spirituality certificate combines the study of traditional religion-based spirituality and its practical applications for a wide array of fields, including pre-med, pre-law, psychology, nursing, fine and performing arts, business, journalism, education and a host of other disciplines for which such a credential would be of professional or personal value. If you would like more information on the Certificate program, please contact spirituality@fiu.edu or by phone at (305) 348-3909.

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