Room-sized Installation by Toledo Native Goes On View at the Toledo Museum of Art

TOLEDO, OHIO—The Toledo Museum of Art, where sculptor Robert Cremean took his first art classes, is displaying a large installation by him this fall.

*STUDIO SECTION 2008–2009, East Wall: Calvary–Donors With Crucifixion, West Wall: Self-Portrait As A Young Artist, Middle: Il Passetto*, a room-sized work of articulated panels, writing and sculpture, was recently donated to the Museum by Robert de la Vergne.

“We are delighted to be the recipient of this significant gift,” said Amy Gilman, associate director of the Museum. “Robert Cremean grew up in Toledo and took his first art classes here at the Museum. Like many people in our community and around the world, he and his partner have a special place for the Toledo Museum of Art in their hearts.”

Cremean has explored the human form through his sculptures for more than 60 years. His *STUDIO SECTION* installations, first begun in 1998, are the true culmination of his career. They are complex, room-sized works of art made up of not only the kinds of sculptures for which he is best known, but also include large panel drawings with sculptural relief elements.

Born in Toledo in 1932, Cremean grew up near the Toledo Zoo and the Maumee River. After earning bachelor’s and master’s degrees in fine arts from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan, Cremean moved to California where he worked as a sculptor from 1956 to 2008. He presently has his studio in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. His work has been shown around the world and can be found in a number of public collections, including the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento, California and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

Cremean’s sculptures consist predominantly of the human figure combined with abstract signs and symbols. His recent works relay themes dealing with religion, inhumanity, war, genocide and bigotry and contain personal recollections of childhood, an artistic life and aging.

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“In order to be able to honor this acquisition we are showing the installation in its entirety in Gallery 3 of the Museum’s main building this fall. After that, sections of the work may be installed periodically as part of our permanent collection,” said Gilman.

Admission to the Museum is free. The temporary installation contains nudity and other content that some visitors may find offensive. Viewer discretion is advised.

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The Toledo Museum of Art is a nonprofit arts institution funded through individual donations, foundation grants, corporate sponsorships, and investments. The Ohio Arts Council helps fund programs at the Toledo Museum of Art through a sustainable grant program that encourages economic growth, educational excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans.

Admission to the Museum is free. The Museum is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, Noon to 6 p.m.; closed Mondays and major holidays. Friday evening hours are made possible by Fifth Third Bank.

The Museum is located at 2445 Monroe Street at Scottwood Avenue, just west of the downtown business district and one block off I-75 with exit designations posted. For general information, visitors can call 419-255-8000 or 800-644-6862, or visit www.toledomuseum.org.