



The Cathedral
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RELEASE

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**ARTIST DUA ABBAS PRESENTS “JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER” AT THE
CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE AS PART OF
“STATIONS OF THE CROSS” EXHIBITION ACROSS MANHATTAN**

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is One of 14 Iconic Destinations to Participate



Image credit: Dua Abbas

(February X, 2018 – New York, NY) – Creating a powerful link between Christianity and Islam, Pakistani artist Dua Abbas will present her work “Jesus Meets His Mother” at **the Cathedral of St. John the Divine**, part of the **“Stations of the Cross: Art. Passion. Justice.”** exhibition taking place across Manhattan.

This public art project explores the journey of Jesus to his crucifixion and resurrection and presents a pilgrimage comprised of 14 “art stations” located across Manhattan. Station Four, “Jesus Meets His Mother,” will be on view at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112th Street), Manhattan, from February 14 – April 1, 2018.

Dua Abbas, based in Lahore, Pakistan, draws upon European devotional art, especially medieval paintings in The Cloisters collection in New York, for her piece “Jesus Meets His Mother.” Her cut-out animation combines this Christian iconography with original photographs of her family members observing mourning rites during the Islamic month of Muharram, including decorative materials used in the construction of a commemorative model, or *Tazia*. During Muharram, Shiite Muslims commemorate the seventh-century martyrdom of the Imam Husayn ibn Ali (grandson of the Prophet) at Karbala in modern-day Iraq.

“I was interested in similarities between the figures of Mary, mother of Jesus, and Fatima, mother of Husayn, and the cultures of remembrance that have developed around the sufferings of their sons,” said Dua Abbas. “I tried to explore themes of maternal devotion, travel and transformation, and the fluidity of faith and its expression.”

The “**Stations of the Cross: Art. Passion. Justice.**” exhibition, curated by Dr. Aaron Rosen, Professor of Religious Thought at Rocky Mountain College and Visiting Professor at King’s College London, has travelled across the world raising awareness for those in need of refuge. It was first on view in London in 2016, with art stations at institutions including the National Gallery, the Tower of London, and St. Paul’s Cathedral. In 2017, the exhibition was shown in Washington, D.C., with stations located at the National Cathedral, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, and adjacent to the Supreme Court.

For more information on the Cathedral’s participation, please visit:
<http://www.stjohndivine.org/programs/art/upcoming-exhibitions>.

For more information of all locations of Stations of the Cross, please visit:
<http://www.artstations.org>.

About The Cathedral

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of intellectual light and leadership.

People from many faiths and communities worship together in services held more than 30 times a week; the soup kitchen serves roughly 25,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Adults and Children in Trust, the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.

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