



MICHAEL GET

A DIFFERENT
VIEW



A DIFFERENT VIEW

The first faithfully reproduced complete exhibition of Michelangelo's magnificent ceiling frescoes in combination with the Quattrocento frescoes of the Sistine Chapel to be shown outside the Vatican.



H. Cardinal Walter Brandmüller

Der Einladung, die Schirmherrschaft über die Aus-
stellung "Der andere Blick" zu übernehmen,
habe ich fern ausproben.
Das Werk des überraschenden Genies Michelangelo,
die Ansochraft der Bilder, die auch die Höhe der
hier erstmals gewagten Präsentation - all das
ist wahrlich überwiegend.
Nun können die Besucher der Ausstellung bei
ihrem Durchgang sich erneut der Größe im-
mer europäischen, christlichen Kultur
bewusst werden; einer Kultur, die auf jener
paralytischen Geschichte gründet, von der die Bilder
des Sixtina Kunde geben: Schöpfung, Abfall von
Gott, Erlösung und Verkörperung von Welt und
Mensch.
Hier liegen denn auch die Wurzeln, aus denen
der Krisengesellschaft Europas von heute
neue Lebenskraft für seine Zukunft zu
stammen kann.
Ich wünsche der Ausstellung zahlreichste
Besucher mit offenen Herzen und Herzen
und guten Erfolg!
Walter Card. Brandmüller

10. Juni 2016

Foreword by
Cardinal Walter Brandmüller,
patron of the exhibition





Dear Readers,

On public days, up to 25,000 people from all corners of the world stream through the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican to see some of Michelangelo's most famous legacies with their own eyes. For a brief moment, the visitors are overwhelmed by a total artwork of monumental proportions. None of them, however, come anywhere near the frescoes in the Chapel.

The enormous number of up to 5.5 million visitors in one year alone is a very clear indication of the strength of the worldwide interest in these art treasures. Not everybody, though, who would like to experience the works in person, is able to travel to Rome. Many others do not have the time and patience to stand waiting in the long queues in front of the Vatican Museums. Numerous works by important artists go on tours and are made available to people who appreciate them. But how do you deal with frescoes which are a fixed part of the walls of a church?

With our exhibition "Michelangelo - A Different View", we have found an outstanding solution. Our reproductions do more than justice to the original frescoes - not only in their size but also in their surface texture. Visitors to the exhibition are stunned both by the beauty of the works and the almost tangible details. It is our wish to send "Michelangelo - A Different View" around the world and thus enable as many visitors as possible to enjoy this magnificent art. We offer you as an organiser a highlight, the likes of which has not been seen before. We would be delighted if "Michelangelo - A Different View" could cast a spell over the public in your country as well.

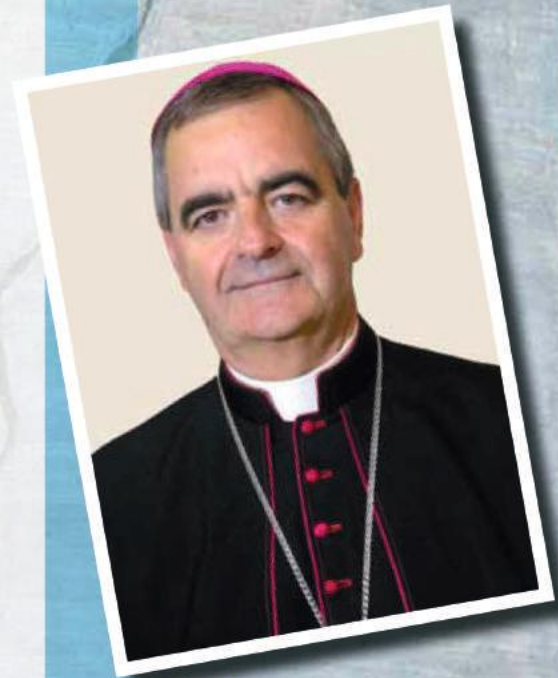
With warmest greetings,
Thomas Ebel

**From the greeting by the Papal Envoy,
Archbishop Dr. Nikola Eterovic**

“My sincerest thanks go to those who are responsible for the idea and realisation of this different view of Michelangelo’s frescoes.

Those who see Michelangelo’s images will agree with Pope Francis when he says: “The world is more than a problem to be resolved - it is a joyous secret that we regard with heart-warming praise”.

As a representative of the Bishop of Rome, who has been chosen for centuries beneath these frescoes of the Florentine master ... I wish this exhibition every success.”



Michelangelo's frescoes of the Sistine Chapel in **A BREATHTAKING REPRODUCTION**



The sculptor and painter Michelangelo spent four years of his life on scaffolding under the vaulted ceiling of the Sistine Chapel painting probably the most famous frescoes in the world with his interpretation of the history of creation. Prior to this, a simple starry sky had adorned the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Faced by the challenge presented by the structural architecture, he developed outstanding painting techniques, setting new standards for future generations of painters - up to the present day.

A DIFFERENT VIEW allows for the first time an unprecedented closeness to the magnificent works of Michelangelo, the originals of which adorn the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel at a height of 22 metres. Far away from the enormous streams of visitors to the Sistine Chapel, visitors here have the opportunity to take in the imposing paintings at their leisure and allow them to soak in.

HOW THE EXHIBITION "MICHELANGELO - A DIFFERENT VIEW" BECAME A REALITY

The idea for the exhibition comes from the producers Thomas Ebel and Christina Marotzke (Exhibition 4You GmbH/E4Y).

Many years ago, Christina had the wish to take the magnificent Sistine Chapel frescoes "down from the ceiling." Together the E4Y Team then sought a way of fulfilling their wish and making the Sistine Chapel frescoes available to the general public.

It was a fortunate coincidence that brought the producers into contact with Prelate Dr. Karl Jüsten. The Director of the Catholic Office in

Berlin was presented with an initial draft of the exhibition concept. Dr. Jüsten recognised the potential of this idea and established contact with the Vatican Museums. There, E4Y received enthusiastic support from the church historian, His Eminence Cardinal Walter Brandmüller. Thanks to this contact a licence agreement was concluded with the Vatican Museums, enabling a whole series of photo slides to be made available that had been slumbering in the museums' archives for many years.

Following the restoration of the Sistine Chapel between 1982 and 1994, a

Japanese team received permission to film the newly resplendent Chapel. Photo slides were made of the frescoes in a 200 x 250 mm format, which since then have been guarded by the Vatican Museums like a treasure - which is indeed what they truly are.

With the utmost care, this treasure was handed over to the photographer Roland Ursprung. He was commissioned to fundamentally process the photos and transfer them to a reproducible state. As can be imagined, the images of the vaulted ceiling were lacking both in perpendicularity and colour

consistency. In addition, the slides had become heavily scratched as the result of dust deposits. Ursprung mastered this challenge by the use of complicated, expensive and sensitive digitalisation technology.

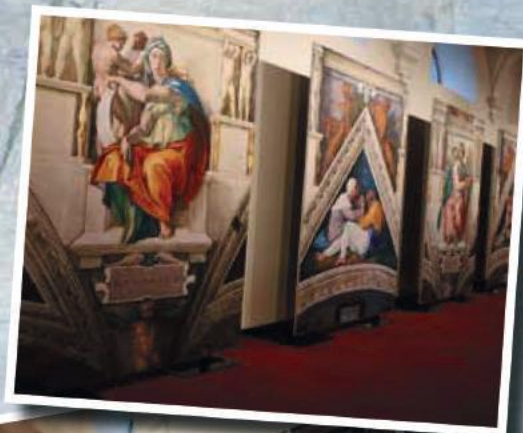


THE FOUR SECTIONS OF THE EXHIBITION "MICHELANGELO - A DIFFERENT VIEW"

- **PROPHETS AND SIBYLS (20 DEPICTIONS)**
- **HEROIC TALES (4 DEPICTIONS)**
- **GENESIS (9 DEPICTIONS)**
- **THE LAST JUDGEMENT (1 DEPICTION)**

In addition: the Quattrocento frescoes The so-called Quattrocento frescoes have adorned the walls of the Sistine Chapel since the 15th century. As an addition to - and to complete - our exhibition "Michelangelo - A DIFFERENT VIEW", these impressive frescoes await visitors in the entrance.

The scenes from the life of Jesus and that of Moses painted by Sandro Botticelli, Pietro Perugino, Domenico Ghirlandaio and Cosimo Rosselli provide additional historical background and allow for a deeper insight into this epoch. Michelangelo encountered these works before starting work on the vaulted ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.





NEW PERSPECTIVES AFTER MORE THAN 500 YEARS

Over the centuries, a thick veil of dust and soot settled over the sculptures and paintings in the Sistine Chapel. Only outlines of the breathtaking frescoes on the ceiling were still recognisable. It was only possible to recapture their original condition by long and delicate restoration work in the 1980s and 1990s.

Visitors to the Vatican Museums, however, are only offered an overall impression of the frescoes on the walls and ceiling. Michelangelo's true masterpieces are situated at a height of 22 metres in the central vaulted ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. From this distance, it is impossible to admire his wonderful legacy in all its splendour and detail.

For the first time, the elaborate reproductions of the paintings in the exhibition "Michelangelo - A Different View" allow visitors an almost intimate closeness to the magnificent frescoes of the Florentine genius. The transfer of the motifs to special fabric panels has created an exceptional connection to the originals - both in the haptics and in the colour rendering. In the process, the exhibition by no means attempted to reproduce the Sistine Chapel. Instead, it aimed to provide observers with a view of Michelangelo's technique which is still setting standards today as well as to develop a very personal perspective of the depictions and intentions of the artist.



MAGNET FOR VISITORS "MICHELANGELO - A DIFFERENT VIEW"

The exhibition allows visitors to view the paintings from a distance of only two metres with no time constraints.

Numerous motifs were painted into the vaulted ceiling of the Sistine Chapel - i.e. in elongated form. From a distance, however, they appear in credible proportions. To reproduce these proportions while depicting the works of Michelangelo's exceptional achievement in perspective posed the greatest challenge for the reproduction.

The visitors to the exhibition are provided with a view of the frescoes which up to this point had only been accorded to Michelangelo himself and - at a later date - the restorers in the Sistine Chapel. It is only from close up that it is possible to examine and understand Michelangelo's work and thus understand it in a new way and from an individual perspective.

POTENTIAL

Every year, four million international visitors stream into the Sistine Chapel. In 2016 alone, 90,000 visitors came to see the reproductions.



**WHAT
THE PRESS
SAY**



"Like a picture book of a giant"

FOCUS.DE

"Stunning and timeless"

RHEIN-ZEITUNG

"The Sistine Chapel turned on its head"

KÖLNER EXPRESS

"So near to heaven"

KÖLNER STADT ANZEIGER

"Best edutainment"

KUNST-MAG.DE

WHAT THE VISITORS SAY



"I would like to keep the exhibition here forever."

(Princess Gloria of Thurn and Taxis)

"I am happy that I could spend so much time with Michelangelo's works."

(Franziska Wagner, Hof)

"I was particularly impressed by the expressiveness of the Eritrean Sibyl."

(Elisabeth Kerner, Landshut)

"The images look astonishingly real!"

(Elke Vielhaber, Munich)

"I had the feeling I was looking through Michelangelo's eyes all the time. Fascinating!"

(Rudolf Krauthammer, Regensburg)

"I hope that many more people will be able to see this exhibition!"

(Claus Wittenburger, Heilbronn)

"I never would have thought it possible to be able to come so close to the images."

(Eva-Maria Denning, Cologne)

"It was only this spring that I visited the Sistine Chapel. I had no opportunity to appreciate the frescoes, far too many visitors. But here... I'm thrilled."

(Katharina Lenz, Hürth)

"This is the second time we've been here - and this time we've brought friends with us. They simply have to see these images."

(Rita and Stephan Schwidkowski, Passau)

AUDIO GUIDE

The exhibition also includes an audio guide

The individual motifs are explained in the context of the books of the Bible from the perspective of the great master himself. In the introduction, Michelangelo Buonarroti explains how he obtained the assignment. He also provides a little insight into the adversities that were typical for everyday life in Italy in those days.

Michelangelo vividly explains the individual prophets, the sibyls, the heroic events as well as the story of creation and gives the viewer a small aide-mémoire for the historical background.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to thank the following individuals who helped successfully realise our exhibition

His Eminence Cardinal Walter Brandmüller (patron)

Prof. Dr. Arnold Nesselrath (scientific advisor)

Ingo Langner (curator)

His Eminence Cardinal Kurt Koch (Honorary Committee)

Prof. Gabriela von Habsburg (Honorary Committee)

Prof. Dr. Horst Bredekamp (Honorary Committee)

Peter Limbourg (Honorary Committee)

Vatican Museums (licence)



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