

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART

PRESENTS:

**CROSSING THE DIVIDE:
JESUITS ON THE AMERICAN FRONTIER**

FEBRUARY 26 — JUNE 27, 2010

ST. LOUIS — The Saint Louis University Museum of Art is pleased to present *Crossing the Divide: Jesuits on the American Frontier*. The exhibition opens with a reception on Friday evening, February 26, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Founded by Ignatius Loyola in the year 1534, the men of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) concentrated their efforts on foreign missions, education, and scholarship. In the year 1823, a new generation of Jesuit missionaries arrived in St. Louis, MO. Like the Jesuit missionaries of old, these Jesuits were also keen observers of the people they encountered as well as the geography and ecology that differed so much from what they had known in Europe.

Crossing the Divide: Jesuits on the American Frontier contains extremely accurate documentation of the new world this group of Jesuits entered as they crossed cultural, linguistic, and religious divides. The exhibition displays dictionaries of Native-American languages; as well as extremely accurate maps and detailed journals. Of significant importance are the sketches and water colors of Nicholas Point, S.J., and the Moses Linton album, a chronicle of the work and travels of Pierre De Smet, S.J. This album is on display for the first time.

Page Two

Crossing the Divide: Jesuits on the American Frontier
The Saint Louis University Museum of Art

The exhibition was made possible by loans from the Midwest Jesuit Archives, the Missouri Historical Society, located in St. Louis, MO; the Campbell House Museum, located in St. Louis, MO; and the Collection of Western Jesuit Missions, currently displayed at the Saint Louis University Museum of Art.

Financial support for **Crossing the Divide: Jesuits on the American Frontier** was made possible by the Marchetti Fund of Saint Louis University; the Beaumont Foundation Fund of the Historic Samuel Cupples House; and by benefactors who wish to remain anonymous.

WHAT: **Crossing the Divide: Jesuits on the American Frontier**

WHERE: **The Saint Louis University Museum of Art**
3663 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108
<http://sluma.slu.edu>

WHEN: **Exhibition opens Friday, February 26; 5:30 p.m.**
Continues until June 27, 2010

MORE INFO: **Mary C. Marshall**
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