



neighbors strangers family friends  
**Charis** boundary crossings

### Exhibition Description

*Charis*, from the Greek for favor or grace, but best translated as goodwill, is an international traveling exhibit of work by 7 Asian and 7 North American artists that explores the implications of Christian faith and effective artistic practice in an increasingly visually-oriented world where the convergence of cultures is the norm rather than the exception. As the outgrowth of the artists' participation in a two-week immersive seminar in Indonesia in June 2008 co-sponsored by the CCCU and the Nagel Institute for the Study of World Christianity and led by the Plowshares Institute the exhibit represents the ongoing dialogue of these artists on the challenges of cross-cultural communication and understanding, and the need for people of faith to address real-world issues of social justice, peace and reconciliation, and the effects of globalization wherever one lives.

Reconsidering the importance of our shared humanity in relation to the realities of genuine difference as we seek to live together in a shrinking and increasingly interdependent world, the exhibition presents the essential challenge of living with a spirit of grace (and all that entails) toward ones' neighbor, whether that neighbor is next door or on the other side of the globe.

The exhibition is composed of about 40 works that include paintings, sculptures, assemblage, fiber constructions, installations and video projections. This highly interactive, experiential presentation includes collaborative endeavors that embody the very issues and ideals that the exhibit presents.

The exhibit will travel across North America through 2012 before heading to Asia.

For more information on *Charis* go to [www.calvin.edu/go/charis](http://www.calvin.edu/go/charis) or <http://taylorcharis.wordpress.com/> . A substantial color catalogue has been published in conjunction with the exhibition and can be purchased at <http://store.calvin.edu> .

Contact Rachel Smith, *Charis* Project Director and Curator, for more information, interest in booking the exhibition, or a prospectus of the exhibit at [rsmith@taylor.edu](mailto:rsmith@taylor.edu) .

