FREDTalks to Examine Blasphemy Nov. 22 at FJJMA

NORMAN, OKLA. – FREDTalks returns to the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art with an examination of blasphemy through a panel discussion and musical performance. Panelists will discuss how blasphemy relates to both art and religion. The complimentary talk is scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22, and is open to the public.

Based on the popularity of shorter, informal discussions such as TEDTalks, FREDTalks are designed to engage visitors with panel speakers on a variety of different topics related to art.

Light refreshments will be served at the event, which will be held in the museum’s Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium.

November’s talk is titled Blasphemy and will be presented by Dan Schwartz, assistant professor of music in oboe in the University of Oklahoma School of Music. Schwartz will lead a discussion about blasphemy, including a performance of an original musical composition.

“I am very excited to be performing a piece I wrote for unaccompanied oboe at FREDTalks,” said Schwartz. “The piece is inspired by Piss Christ, a controversial photograph where the image isn't quite exactly what it seems. I used that concept as the main inspiration for my work, and the piece explores modern techniques on the oboe hoping to capture this idea, as well as the overall mood of the photograph and controversy surrounding it. I am very much looking forward to performing this new work.”

The talk also will include panelists Robert Bailey, assistant professor of art
history at the OU School of Art and Art History, and Mitch Randall, doctor of ministry at North Haven Church.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located in the OU Arts District on the corner of Elm Avenue and Boyd Street, at 555 Elm Ave., on the OU Norman campus. Admission to the museum is complimentary to all visitors, thanks to the generosity of the OU Office of the President and the OU Athletics Department. The museum is closed on Mondays. Information and accommodations on the basis of disability are available by calling (405) 325-4938 or visiting www.ou.edu/fjjma.

###

IMAGE CREDIT

Dan Schwartz, assistant professor of music in oboe in the OU School of Music, will lead a discussion about blasphemy at FREDTalks starting at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22, at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art.