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Museum questions religion with art

by Dennis Coday

NCR Today

"In the end though it was the energy of the art that surprised me the most. I have always been aware of the power art has over me, but when these objects were juxtaposed with questions [about religion], I found that the gallery actually vibrated."

That's Amanda Hellman describing for *Boston Globe* religion writer Michael Paulson her reactions to "The Matter of Theology: A Conversation with the Collection," an exhibit she put together as an art history grad student and an intern at the Williams College Museum of Art in Williamstown, Mass.

Hellman said her assignment was to "find art from the museum's permanent collection that says something about the world's religions that could hang in the museum and would be interesting to the academic community."

To see some of the art, look at Paulson's story and then follow the links to the museum's web site.

As fascinating as the art is Hellman's description of how an exhibit is researched and assembled.

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