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Praise for the Guide to Imagery Series:

“A superb series.”—Sister Wendy Beckett

“Unconventional and visually rich.”—Choice

A New Guide Explores the Timeless Themes of Death and Resurrection in Art

LOS ANGELES—As the one truly unavoidable reality of human existence, death is also one of the oldest and most common themes in the history of art. The newest volume in the Guide to Imagery series, *Death and Resurrection in Art* (J. Paul Getty Museum, \$24.95, paperback) explores its depictions from Egyptian tomb paintings and battle scenes on Greek vases, to scenes of the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus by the great Renaissance masters, to contemporary encounters with these subjects. Appropriately, the book will be published on Good Friday.

The contents span three thousand years of the iconography of death and resurrection. While focusing on the Western artistic tradition, the book also includes many artworks from Asia, Africa, and Oceania. With contemporary works including *Piss Christ* by Andres Serrano and Damien Hirst’s famous work featuring a shark carcass—*The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living*—the artworks featured here are the most varied of all the volumes in the Guide to Imagery series.

Author Enrico de Pascale explores depictions of these two subjects thematically, through chapters on violent death, ceremonial tributes to the departed, allegorical depictions of death, and the journey to the afterlife. The book concludes with an examination of symbolic representations of the victory of life over death.

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The Guide to Imagery series explains common symbols used in art. The small format of each volume allows it to be carried along on museum visits with ease. Other titles in the series include *The History of the Church in Art*, *Food and Feasting in Art*; *Astrology, Magic, and Alchemy in Art*; *Gardens in Art*; *Artists' Techniques and Materials*; *Icons and Saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church*; *Angels and Demons in Art*; *Symbols and Allegories in Art*; *Nature and Its Symbols*; *Old Testament Figures in Art*; *Gospel Figures in Art*; *Saints in Art*; and *Gods and Heroes in Art*.

About the Author—**Enrico de Pascale** is an art critic and art historian who has collaborated on numerous exhibitions with American and Italian museums. He is a coauthor of *Baschenis e la natura morta in Europa* (Skira, 1996).

Publication Information:

Death and Resurrection in Art

Enrico de Pascale

J. Paul Getty Museum

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400 color illustrations

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