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**The Crow Collection of Asian Art Announces
Clay to Talavera: An Encounter of Cultures Gala on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016**

*Black-tie event celebrates historic partnership with Mexico
and world premiere of **Clay Between Two Seas: From the Abbasid Court to Puebla de los Angeles***

DALLAS (Aug. 31, 2016) – The **Crow Collection of Asian Art**, in partnership with the **Mexico Institute**, presents ***Clay to Talavera: An Encounter of Cultures***, an opening night gala celebration Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016, in honor of the world premiere of ***Clay Between Two Seas: From the Abbasid Court to Puebla de los Angeles*** at the Crow Collection of Asian Art in Dallas, Texas.

Clay Between Two Seas: From the Abbasid Court to Puebla de los Angeles is an extensive exhibition of more than 120 stunning objects – that span 11 centuries and three continents. Works of art include Talavera Poblana from the **Museo Franz Mayer** in Mexico City, contemporary ceramics from **Talavera de la Reyna** in Puebla, Islamic earthenware and stonepaste from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and a selection of historic Chinese ceramics from the Crow Collection of Asian Art's permanent collection. The exhibition will debut during the gala (Sept. 17) and be on view to the public through Feb. 12, 2017. The free bilingual exhibition is presented by the **Crow Collection of Asian Art**, Dallas, in partnership with the **Museo Internacional del Barroco, Puebla**, and the **State Council for Culture and the Arts of Puebla, Mexico**. The Crow Collection of Asian Art is the first international partner to the newly opened Museo Internacional del Barroco.

Limited tickets remain for the Sept. 17 black-tie or traditional dress event, which is co-chaired by mother-daughter duo, **Clara Borja Hinojosa**, the founder of the Mexico Institute, and **Martha Hinojosa**, the director of marketing for Galleria Dallas. Special guests include **Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings**, **Consul General of Mexico Francisco de la Torre**, and **Executive Secretary of the Puebla State Council for Culture and the Arts Jorge Alberto Lozoya**, among others.

The evening begins with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. at the Crow Collection of Asian Art, followed by a seated dinner at 8 p.m. across the street at the Belo Mansion. During the cocktail reception, **Chef Abraham Salum** will concoct delightful surprises throughout the evening, including a ginger candy champagne cocktail, mouth-watering hors d'oeuvres including Szechuan peppercorn tuna on fried wontons with serrano avocado vinaigrette and sweet and sour pork belly, to name a few. Informal tours of the exhibition will be given throughout the reception, with music from the Dallas HuaYun Chinese Orchestra setting the mood for the celebration.

Immediately following the viewing and reception, guests will walk next door to the Belo Mansion and enter **Vice Regal Mexico**. The dining experience includes a special performance of **Tonos Humanos**, an esteemed Baroque Ensemble from Puebla, Mexico, as well as dancing and live jazz at the end of the night led by **Vicho Vicencio and the New Casino Band**.

Clara and Martha's vision for ***Clay to Talavera: An Encounter of Cultures*** is supported by a host committee that includes **Sayra Alcazar**, **Lucy Aquino**, **Jorge Baldor**, **Lucy Billingsley**, **Alejandra Breazeale**, **Cathy Brittingham**, **Carmen Deckard**, **Lolis Dignan**, **Kay Harris**, **Sunhee Hong**, **Jessica Jesse**, **Fernando Krasovsky**, **Cristina B. Lynch**, **Lynn McBee**, **Lourdes Menendes**, **Patricia Moore**, **Almas Muscatwalla**, **Donna Nelson**, **Bertha Outler**, **Terri Provençal**, **Capera Ryan**, **Natalia Saenz**,

Alison Solomon, Martha Tiller, Claudia Torrescano, Katherine Wagner, Robert Weatherly, Kimberly Schlegel Whitman and Kathleen J. Wu.

The exclusive gold-level sponsor (\$25,000) of the opening gala is **The Latino Leadership Center**. Silver-level sponsors (\$10,000) are **Interceramic Inc., Haynes and Boone, Andrews Kurth LLP/HC, Crow Holdings** and **Billingsley Companies**. The luxury print and digital media sponsor is **PaperCity Magazine**.

Exhibition sponsors at the platinum level (\$50,000) are the **State Council for Culture and the Arts of Puebla, Mexico; Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau**; and the **Dallas Tourism Public Improvement District**. Gold-level sponsors (\$25,000) are **Briggs Freeman Sotheby's International Realty**, and **Uriarte Talavera, Mexico** and the **Consulate General of Mexico** in Dallas. The print sponsor is ***The Dallas Morning News*** and the Spanish-language media sponsor is **Univision**.

The exhibition lenders are **Museo Franz Mayer; Museo José Luis Bello y González; Talavera de la Reyna, Cholula, México; Uriarte Talavera, Colección Ventosa; The Metropolitan Museum of Art; The Keir Collection of Islamic Art on loan to the Dallas Museum of Art; and The Ronald W. Longsdorf Collection**.

Gala tickets start at \$500, with tables for 10 starting at \$5,000. For more information, visit crowcollection.org or contact Stacie Adams at sadams@crowcollection.org

Exhibition Organization

Clay Between Two Seas: From the Abbasid Court to Puebla de los Angeles is co-organized by the Crow Collection of Asian Art and the Museo Internacional del Barroco in Puebla, Mexico. The exhibition is curated by Dr. Farzaneh Pirouz and coordinated by Fernando Ondarza. A lushly illustrated bilingual (Spanish and English) research catalogue *From Baghdad to Puebla*, written by Dr. Pirouz, accompanies the exhibition. Copies of the catalogue will be available for purchase at the Crow Collection of Asian Art's Lotus Shop. *For Social Media: @crowcollection #crowgala2016*

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