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## **DELAWARE ART MUSEUM WELCOMES FIRST RECIPIENT OF FELLOWSHIP IN PRE-RAPHAELITE STUDIES**

Wilmington, DE (May 13, 2008) —The Delaware Art Museum and the University of Delaware Library are pleased to welcome Dr. Colin Cruise, the 2008 Fellow in Pre-Raphaelite Studies, for the presentation of his lecture “Pre-Raphaelite Drawing: Contexts and Controversies” on Tuesday, May 27, at 4:00 p.m. at the Museum. This lecture is free and open to the public. Dr. Cruise is a Research Lecturer in the History of Art at the School of Art, University of Aberystwyth, Wales, and is the first recipient of the Fellowship in Pre-Raphaelite Studies jointly offered by the University of Delaware Library and the Delaware Art Museum.

During his time in Delaware, Dr. Cruise is pursuing further research toward an exhibition he is guest-curating, entitled *Drawing Conclusions: Pre-Raphaelite Studies, Designs and Watercolours*. This exhibition will open in the winter of 2010 at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, England, and is scheduled to tour throughout 2011. Dr. Cruise’s lecture will focus on Pre-Raphaelite theory and practice, including close observation of nature as advocated by John Ruskin; illustrations; and independent drawings.

Dr. Cruise has written widely on 19th-century art and culture. In 2005, he curated the exhibition *Love Revealed: Simeon Solomon and the Pre-Raphaelites* for the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, England.

The University of Delaware Library / Delaware Art Museum joint Fellowship in Pre-Raphaelite Studies is awarded to scholars conducting significant research in the lives and works of the Pre-Raphaelites and their friends, associates, and followers. For more information, please visit [www.delart.org/fellowships.html](http://www.delart.org/fellowships.html).

Founded in 1912, the **Delaware Art Museum** is home to the largest and most important collection of British Pre-Raphaelite art in the United States. Assembled largely by the Wilmington industrialist Samuel Bancroft, Jr., at the turn of the century (with significant subsequent additions), the collection includes paintings and drawings by all the major and minor Pre-Raphaelite artists, as well as decorative arts, prints, photographs, manuscripts, and rare books. The Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives, with a reference collection of 30,000 volumes, holds Samuel Bancroft's papers and correspondence, a rich source for the history of collecting and provenance which also contains significant manuscript material by and about the Rossettis.

The **University of Delaware Library** has broadly based and comprehensive collections—books, periodicals, electronic resources, microforms, government publications, databases, maps, manuscripts, media, and access to information via the Internet—which provide a major academic resource for the study of literature and art. Many printed and manuscript items related to the Pre-Raphaelites and their associates are in the Special Collections Department, including major archives relating to the Victorian artist and writer, George Adolphus Storey, and to the bibliographer and forger, Thomas J. Wise. The Mark Samuels Lasner Collection, associated with the Special Collections Department, focuses on British literature and art of the period 1850 to 1900, with an emphasis on the Pre-Raphaelites and on the writers and illustrators of the 1890s. Its rich holdings comprise 5,000 first and other editions (including many signed and association copies), manuscripts, letters, works on paper (including drawings by Edward Burne-Jones and Dante Gabriel Rossetti), and ephemera.

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