

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact:  
Melissa Maier  
Manager, External Relations  
Direct Phone: 203/432-3222

### **Yale Institute of Sacred Music Fellows**

Martin D. Jean, director of the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, has announced the creation of the ISM Fellows in Sacred Music, Worship, and the Arts. Inspired by other great centers for advanced study, this fellows program will advance scholarship and creative work consistent with the Institute's mission, and create a network of leaders working across national, cultural, disciplinary, and religious boundaries. The new environment will help create an ever-changing but deeply integrated community of scholars, practitioners, and performers at Yale, and build a powerful international network.

Founded at Yale in 1973, the Yale Institute of Sacred Music is an interdisciplinary graduate center that studies, fosters, and explores engagement with the sacred through music, worship, and the arts in diverse religious traditions and in public life. It partners with the Yale Divinity School and the Yale School of Music, as well as other academic and professional units at Yale, in training students for service in the academy, religious communities, and the public sector. The Institute's new initiative will bring together scholars, religious leaders, and artists from around the world to New Haven for one year to work and teach in their fields of sacred music, liturgical and ritual studies, or religion and the arts. The group may also include scholars in the humanities and social or natural sciences whose work is directly related to these areas. The Fellows will be showcased in a series of public lectures and presentations during the year. The program will expand knowledge and support work in the fields of sacred music, liturgical/ritual studies, and religion and the arts; it will enlarge the teaching and learning enterprise to include departments and schools seeking more collaboration in these areas.

"It is our hope that this new initiative will be a meaningful way to extend the original vision of our founding donors to new constituencies at Yale and the world beyond," said Prof. Jean. "Our founders were convinced of the importance of music and the arts in creating mutual understanding and respect between people. This has inspired us to move beyond our current boundaries to forge a diverse, worldwide network of scholars, practitioners, and artists whose work will be transformed in this vibrant, interdisciplinary community."

"The ISM Fellows will be an exciting venture that knits together faculty and students from around Yale, and directs the resources of the Institute into the global community." said Barbara Shailor, Deputy Provost for the Arts at Yale, and an ardent supporter of the Institute.

Fellowship applications for the 2010-2011 academic year may be made until November 2, 2009.

More information is available at [www.yale.edu/ism/fellows](http://www.yale.edu/ism/fellows) or by calling 203-432-5180.

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