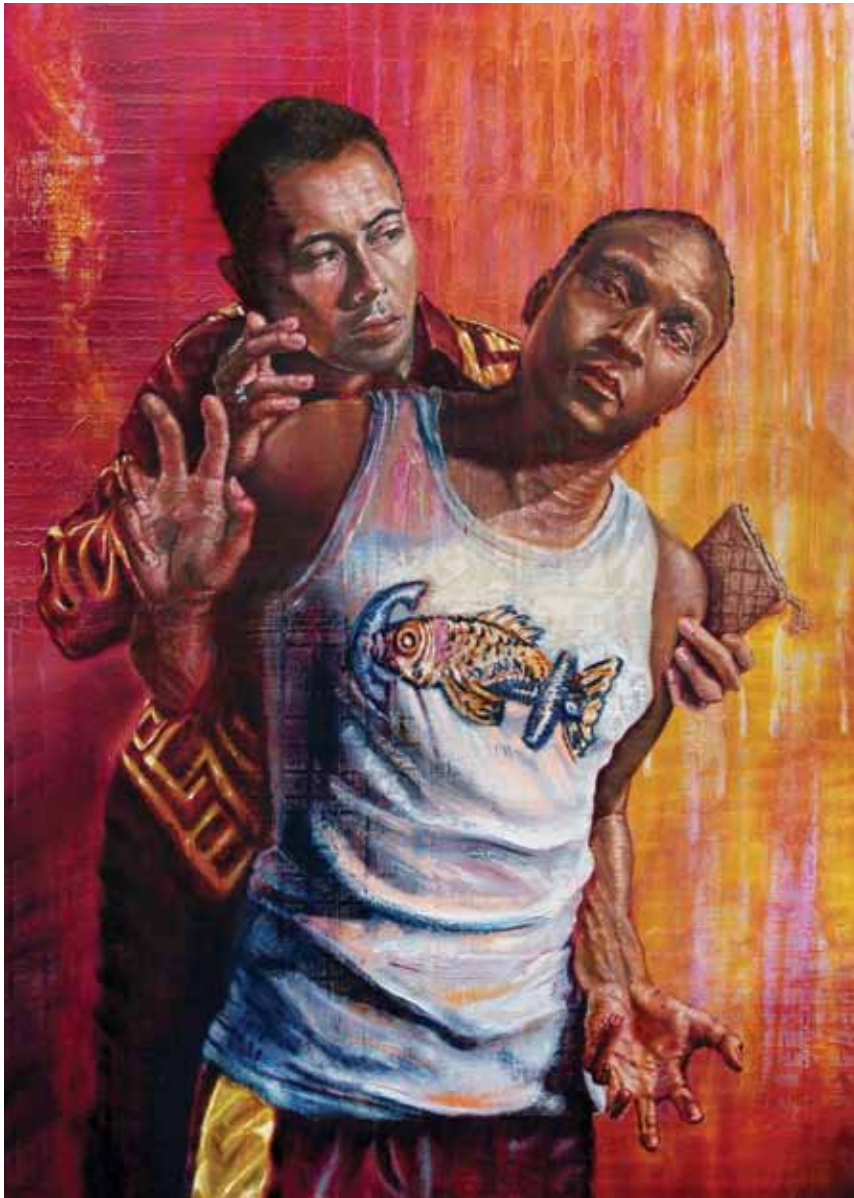


## 2009 FAITH & FORM RELIGIOUS ART AWARD



The series “Stations of the Cross” was first exhibited at the World Youth Day celebrations in Sydney, Australia 2008. The launch was the first stage of a three-year project that will eventually consist of 15 life-size oil paintings that draw upon biblical stories to explore contemporary issues, transplanting modern day figures into age-old scenarios. For example, the depiction of Christ as a black boxer raises issues of human justice and racial inequalities in a modern visual translation of traditional iconography set against the ethereal quality of an abstract expressionist backdrop. South Sydney Uniting Church, which commissioned the series, wanted art that connected with the inner life of the parishioners in the Waterloo region—the heart of

Aboriginal Sydney. The objective was to make the artworks an integral component of theological education, and theology an integral component of art education. The study depicting the sleeping or intoxicated “disciples” in the Garden drew these comments from parishioners: “I think we should hang this one permanently in the church. We all have addictions. We all fail. And yet we’re all part of the story.”

### JURY COMMENTS

*Exhibiting these paintings in a church invites interpretations that reflect the changing times and the social context. The work is thought provoking and makes a powerful statement, recasting the Stations of the Cross as a contemporary and relevant experience.*



### RELIGIOUS ART

#### VISUAL ARTS

Stations of the Cross  
South Sydney Uniting Church  
Waterloo, New South Wales  
Australia

#### AWARD

Merit

#### ARTIST

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#### COSTUME STYLIST

Victor Cabello

#### LITURGICAL CONSULTANT

Rev. Andrew Collis

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

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