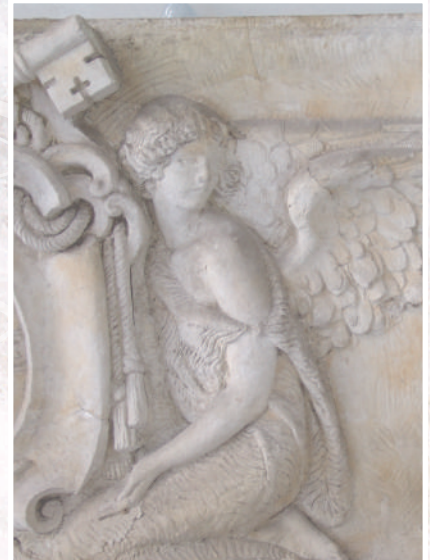


MODEL FOR THE DECORATION ON THE NEW STAIRCASE OF THE VATICAN MUSEUMS

BY ANTONIO MARAINI



Antonio Maraini was born in Rome in 1886. He graduated in Jurisprudence but dedicated his life to sculpture, art and architecture. Maraini was one of the most acclaimed artists in Italy, especially in Rome, between the two world wars. He served as General Secretary of the Biennale in Venice from 1927 to 1938. His artistic inspiration led him to organize events such as the Festival of the Cinema, Music, Theatre and Poetry. He promoted Italian art abroad, organizing exhibitions in Paris and Berlin.

Between 1929 and 1932, Maraini worked on two magnificent projects: the bronze door of St. Paul Outside the Walls and the decoration of the staircase to the Vatican Museums. He completed a series of angels which express his technique, pure lines

influenced by the liberty style and Italian tradition. The angels hold a coat of arms and decorate the helicoidal staircase created by Giuseppe Momo. The plasters of these angels were stored in Maraini's home in Florence and were used for projecting new works. They were acquired by the Vatican Museums in 2008.

About the Project

Artist: Antonio Maraini
Date: 1930 - 1932
Dimensions: 100 x 121 x 18 cm
Material: Plaster

State of Preservation: The plaster panels are in bad condition due to a consistent amount of dust on the surface. Fractures are visible over the entire surface and several small fragments have peeled off. The back of the panels are eroding from rust and woodworms. Most of the original wooden frames have been damaged and will need restoration.

Total cost for restoration \$13,241.50 USD



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*art is man's expression
of his joy in labor.*

2010