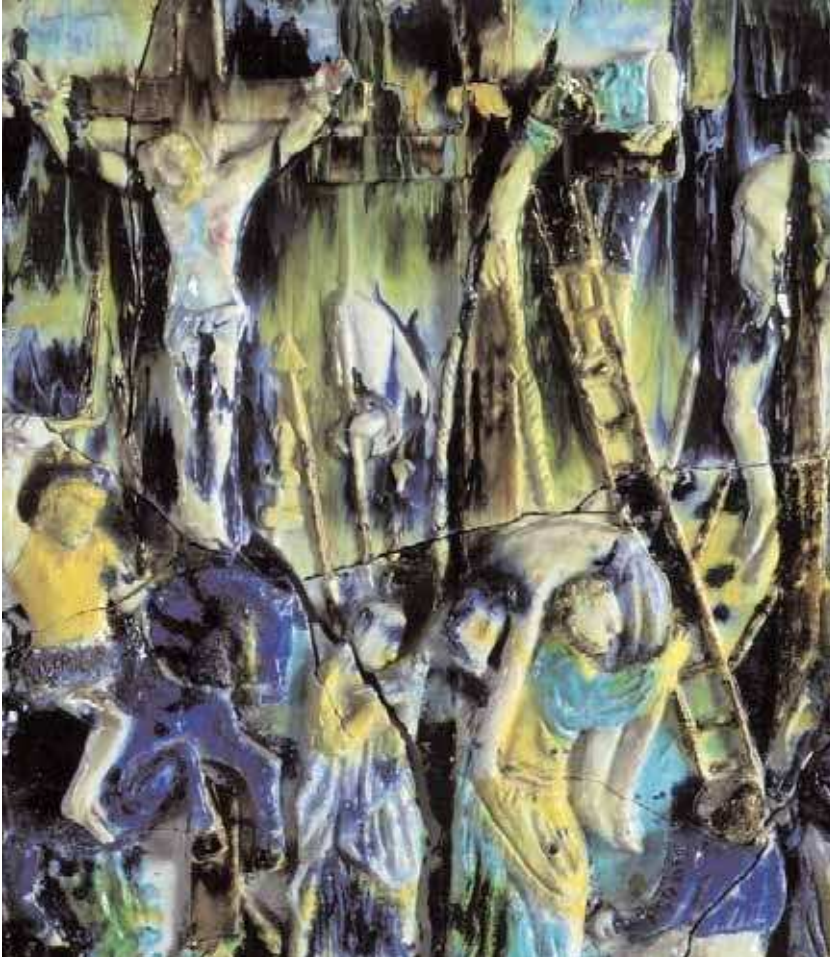


Acquisitions for the Contemporary Art Department
Alik Cavaliere



For Acquisition
Total Cost € 45.000,00

► The *Deposition* (1950) by Alik Cavaliere is a fascinating work of contemporary art. Alik Cavaliere was born in Rome in 1926 and died in Milan (1998) where he spent most of his life. He is one of the most prestigious contemporary sculptors in Italy and during his lifetime he was also the curator of the Academy of Fine Arts in Brera. During his lifetime his style underwent different phases and Cavaliere liked to use diverse material: glass, iron, copper, lead, wood, paper and plastic. His works are always characterized by a strong spirituality where faith and reality come together. The various and interesting shapes of his sculptures instantly communicate their message of religion and life.

The acquisition of this work would bring an excellent contemporary piece to the Contemporary Art Collection of the Vatican Museums and the *Deposition* would be displayed in a room preceding the entrance of the Sistine Chapel, where thousands of visitors pass through every day. Thanks to the skilled work of this artist, the message of the work is immediate: desperation, confusion and devotion coinciding in the hearts of those who witness the deposition of the Lord Jesus from the cross. Cavaliere found inspiration in the Italian sculptures of the XV and XVI century. The iconography is traditional, yet the contrasting colors give to the whole work a sense of dynamism and movement. Fissures on the surface of the ceramic are made to look like scars on the skin and in this way underline the dramatic moment of the Lord being taken down from the cross.