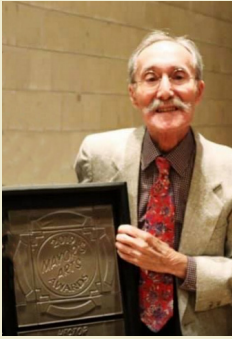


Hector Garcia's Christ



In the fall of 2019, Pastor Doug was contacted by Gethsemane Lutheran Church located in Fort Wayne with a unique offer: Would Concordia be interested in becoming the new home for a wall sculpture? Gethsemane was beginning a remodeling of their chancel and was seeking a placement for a very special piece of art.

The Christ figure was commissioned by Gethsemane and installed in 1990, the work of acclaimed local sculptor and medalist, Hector Garcia. Hector Garcia is an IPFW associate professor emeritus of fine arts and taught sculpture and figure drawing from 1976 to 1997. He first taught with the Fort Wayne Art Institute, followed by IPFW after the merger with Indiana University. A nationally and internationally recognized sculptor, Garcia received a B.F.A. in sculpture from The John Herron Institute in Indianapolis and an M.F.A. from Indiana University.

Garcia's work is well represented in Fort Wayne, including:

The Jesuit Priest," points to the confluence of the three rivers.

Miami Indian Chief "LittleTurtle" sculpture is located in Fort Wayne's Headwaters Park East.

"Let The Little Children Come To Me..." plaque is located in the Charis House.

"Transformation" located at the Allen County Juvenile Center on Wells Street

Busts of Rodin, Rembrandt, Brueghel, Michelangelo are located in Allen County Library.

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Garcia has completed hundreds of sculptures and commissioned works during his prolific career. He has produced medals and medallions for award ceremonies in Helsinki, Finland; Takaoka, Japan; Gera, Germany; Plosk, Poland; and London, England. Collections of his work are owned by notable individuals throughout the country including Ted Turner, Ray Bradbury, Herbie Hancock, Chris Schenkel, Bob Knight, Gene Keady and Richard Lugar.

In 2019, Garcia was awarded the 2019 Arts United Mayor's Arts Award in recognition for his 60-year career as a public sculpture artist.

At age 85, sculptor Hector Garcia wants to live long enough to make Fort Wayne's first serious public work depicting John Chapman, better known as Johnny Appleseed.

