

Guido Dettoni della Grazia



san**F**èlix



*An excavation, an encounter*

On the 30th of May, 2004, surprised by the absence of biography of San Felix, Roman and Christian Martyr, who became Patron of Vilafranca del Penedès in the year 1700, Guido Dettoni della Grazia posed the question, "Perhaps, this Saint can to be found now in this new Millennium?" He then proposed that the first day of the Town Feast, which is dedicated to Saint Felix, would be a good day for finding him within the soil of Vilafranca. It was not the first time that this artist had resorted to excavation of soil to give form to his work. From Dettoni's hands this sculpture is thus the result of a process that began in the patio of the Museum of Vilafranca the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2004 at 7 am.

On the 14th of January, 2005 in the auditorium of the Museum of Vilafranca the sculpture of this *discovered Saint Felix* cast in bronze "à la cire perdue", was presented for the first time, along with the presentation of the documentary film of the entire process.

This sculpture, 40 cm. in height, is also the original of a reproduction in oak intended to be hand-held and recognized by touch. One of the defining characteristics of this artist's work is his invitation to "see with the hands" and to "touch with the eyes".

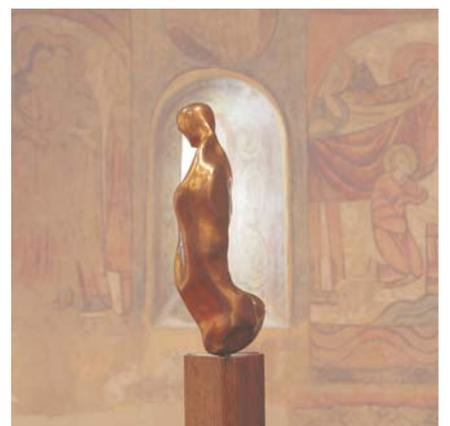
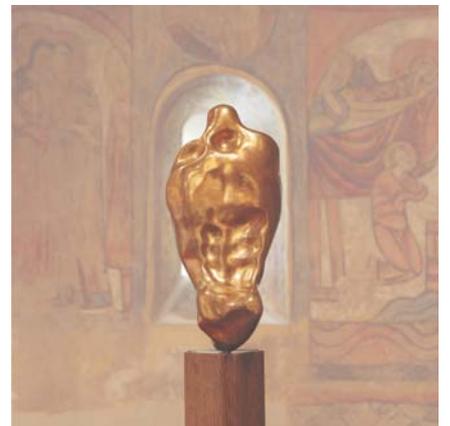
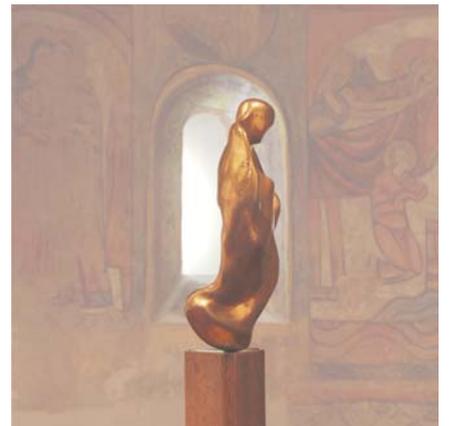
On the 25th of May of 2005 at the Spanish Embassy to the Vatican, in Rome a new presentation was welcomed. In the year 1700 the relics of San Felix arrived at Vilafranca from Rome. 305 years later his Icon has arrived in Rome from Vilafranca.

On the 16th of June of 2005, at the Institute of Sacred Art of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Sciences in Paris, another presentation, combined with a Conference on the author and his work took place.





Guido Dettoni designs the illustration of the cover of the book "Sant Fèlix, el romà fet vilafranquí" written by Josep Maria Juncà and Antoni Ribas. The book was presented at the Diocesan Museum of Barcelona –Pia Almoina- July 15, 2009. The cast in bronze sculpture of Saint Felix remained there in exhibited until the following presentation of the book at the Museum of Vilafranca del Penedès August 21, 2009.



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