

## **SAVING ANTIQUITIES FOR EVERYONE LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE**

**NEW YORK JUNE 1, 2004—SAFE (Saving Antiquities For Everyone)**, the volunteer group dedicated to increasing public awareness of the looting of cultural antiquities worldwide and the illicit antiquities trade, officially launched its new website, [www.savingantiquities.org](http://www.savingantiquities.org).

Founded in April 2003, in response to the ransacking of the National Museum of Iraq, SAFE is a coalition of professional communications, media, and advertising working together with experts in the academic and museum community. The newly named and redesigned website is the brainchild of SAFE's founder, Cindy Ho.

"The new website is critical for the push for public awareness," says Ho. "Too often, people are unaware of the widespread looting that occurs all over the world—even here in America. This website will offer a starting point for people to learn more about protecting their history and their culture."

Included in the new website will be news and information on the looting crisis and the illicit antiquities trade from around the world; featured articles spotlighting high-risk areas written by SAFE members and guest editors; information on the latest treaties and legislation; an open forum for the discussion of recent issues; success stories of recovered objects; reader recommendations and reviews of books, film and television programs on archaeology and looting; and links to other sites like the Archaeological Institute of America, Interpol and the International Council of Museums (ICOM)'s Emergency Red List. Also included will be information on how to get involved with SAFE, recent projects, member biographies and contact information.

SAFE's mission is to increase public awareness of the importance of preserving cultural heritage worldwide. SAFE was founded in response to the ransacking of the National Museum of Iraq in Baghdad, but our effort is global. SAFE is a nonprofit volunteer organization with no political or commercial affiliations. Our agenda is simple: to address the ongoing worldwide problem of vandals and looters robbing us of our collective heritage. For more information on SAFE, please contact Cindy Ho at 917-917-5748 or [cho@savingantiquities.org](mailto:cho@savingantiquities.org).

**"The work that SAFE  
is doing is critical, not only for  
Iraq's cultural heritage, but also for  
the heritage of all mankind.  
All those who enjoy the benefits  
of democracy have a duty  
to stand up and support  
those actions that will stop  
the destruction of history."**

—Dr. Donny George Youkhanna,  
Director General of the National Museum of Iraq