

DONNY GEORGE AND NEIL BRODIE TO RECEIVE THE 2008 SAFE BEACON AWARD

Jersey City, NJ. December 12, 2007– On Saturday, January 5, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago, the non-profit organization SAFE/Saving Antiquities for Everyone will host the 2008 SAFE Beacon Awards ceremony. This year's honorees - Dr. Donny George and Dr. Neil Brodie – will be recognized for their outstanding efforts to raise public awareness about the devastating effects caused by the looting of archaeological sites and ancient monuments, which fuels the global trade in illicit antiquities.

Dr. Neil Brodie, as Research Director of the Illicit Antiquities Research Centre at the McDonald Institute of Archaeological Research at the University of Cambridge, has authored or collaborated on some 39 research papers and six books that document the global problem of looting-for-profit and the trade in unprovenanced artifacts, which fuels the destruction of cultural heritage sites around the world. He is now Director, Cultural Heritage Resource at Stanford University's Archaeology Center.

A noted archaeologist, Dr. Donny George rose to the post of Director-General of the Iraq Museums in Baghdad and President of the Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage. A witness to the looting of the Iraq Museum in April 2003, he played a central role in the recovery of thousands of artifacts that were looted from the Museum and archaeological sites across Iraq. Since arriving to the United States in 2006, he joined the faculty at Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York.

The SAFE Beacon Awards ceremony and reception will begin with a lecture by Dr. Brodie, "Personal Perspectives on the Antiquities Trade" and will feature introductions of the honorees by Dr. Richard Leventhal, Director of the Penn Cultural Heritage Center, Dr. John Malcolm Russell of the Massachusetts College of Art and Cindy Ho, President of SAFE. The event will take place at the site of the Archaeological Institute of America annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago.

Event Details

Saturday, January 5, 2008

6:30 to 8:30pm

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Plaza Ballroom B

151 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL

Tickets: \$45 for adults, \$25 for students with valid ID

About SAFE

SAFE/Saving Antiquities for Everyone, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, creates educational programs and media campaigns to raise public awareness regarding the importance of preserving cultural heritage worldwide. SAFE is a coalition of professionals in communications, media, and advertising working alongside experts in the academic, legal and law enforcement communities. SAFE has no political affiliations.