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PRESS RELEASE  
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## Colonel Matthew Bogdanos Presents *Thieves of Baghdad: The Journey to Recover the World's Greatest Stolen Treasures*

Wednesday, January 24

Cincinnati Art Museum, 953 Eden Park Drive

Lecture with Q&A: 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Booksigning: 8:00 p.m.

A blend of treasure hunt, police procedural, war-time thriller, and exposé of the international black market in stolen art, *Thieves of Baghdad: The Journey to Recover the World's Greatest Stolen Treasures* is told in the voice of Colonel Matthew Bogdanos: soldier, father, and scholar. Bogdanos is also a U.S. Marine, New York City homicide prosecutor, middleweight boxer, and classics scholar. But when he watched with the world as Baghdad fell and looters plundered the Iraq National Museum, he added "raider of the lost art" to his growing list of accomplishments. His mission in Iraq became crystal clear: get the treasures back, securing some of the most significant artifacts in the history of mankind for future generations.

A Bronze Star decorated leader, Colonel Bogdanos knew the terrain. As the mastermind behind a successful collaboration of an elite group of agencies that infiltrated terrorist activity in Afghanistan and Iraq, he had earned his stripes with bold leadership. His passion for history thrived even under the perils of warfare. He lived for six months in the dusty halls of the museum, never knowing who truly was friend or foe, while battling a flourishing black market that often sold priceless artifacts along with illegal weapons. He recounts his stunning mission amidst the chaotic world of post-war Baghdad in the bestselling *Thieves of Baghdad*. Bogdanos is a remarkable blend of warrior, historian, and leader who tells an engrossing story abundant with history and resplendent with hope for the future.

The Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County, Cincinnati Art Museum, and The World Affairs Council at the Global Center of Greater Cincinnati are partnering together to bring you this fascinating program. Ticket price: \$10 for general public / \$5 for Cincinnati Art Museum and Global Center members or Library card holders. To purchase tickets, call 721-ARTS. For more information, call 369-6945.

All of Colonel Bogdanos' royalties from the sale of the book *Thieves of Baghdad* will be donated to the Iraq Museum.

