



The mall is bringing **"Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel: The Exhibition,"** an immersive presentation of Michelangelo's frescoes, including "The Creation of Adam" and "The Last Judgment."

I have been to the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican twice in my life, once in 1974 before the restoration and then again 40 years later in 2014 after the brilliant restoration.

Both times I had to wait in a long line and then squint to see Michelangelo's frescoes while packed in (pre-COVID) with 2,000 other people. Guards everywhere made sure we didn't take any photos, either.

"You had 15 to 20 minutes to look up 60 to 70 feet to see the frescoes". "You couldn't really see them that well. They were as small as a postage stamp."

In 2014 exact copies of each panel, at their original size, were made. I had a chance to see them when they were in New York City in July of 2017.

They are absolutely stunning when seen close up and the audio tour with beautiful music opened up the world of Michelangelo to me.

This exhibit is now coming to the Mall of America: November 13th - January 31, 2021.

Unlike at the real Sistine Chapel, visitors can take as many photos as they wish while listening to an audio tour giving information about each fresco. A two-hour soundtrack of choral music, including Mozart, plays while visitors roam the space.

Jill Renslow, a senior vice president for the MOA, said the exhibit will offer families a safe, fun experience that provides ample room for social distancing.

This is billed as a Covid safe experience with limitations on the number of people who attend at one time.

Reservations are needed at chapelsistine.com - Click on Events at the top and then - **Rome Comes to Mall of America.**

Given the limitations of Covid, this is an awesome opportunity to see the Sistine Chapel up close and without having to go to Rome.

I would make every effort to see this exhibit. Make sure you get the audio guide. It would be hard for me to think of any outing that would be more rewarding and spiritually insightful.