



Altria Group is the parent company of Philip Morris USA, U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company, and John Middleton. Altria also owns Ste. Michelle Wine Estates, Philip Morris Capital Corporation, and has a continuing economic and voting interest in SABMiller. For more than fifty years, Altria Group has strongly supported both the performing and visual arts. We champion organizations that inspire and reflect the qualities we value in our business operations – creativity, diversity, excellence and innovation.

As part of an overall commitment to support programs that create vibrant and engaging communities, Altria supports arts initiatives in Washington, D.C., Richmond, Virginia, and other regions where our companies operate. Included among our focus are select major exhibition sponsorships that bring thought-provoking, world-class cultural experiences to our communities.

We believe *Arcimboldo, 1526-1593: Nature and Fantasy* to be just such an experience. Inspiring in its representation of the transformative power of human imagination, the exhibition at once challenges and invites the viewer to re-imagine the human facial form. Though Arcimboldo's humorous composite portraits may have presaged the visual puzzles offered by more modern figures such as M.C. Escher or Chuck Close, in their beauty and playfulness these works stand strongly and memorably on their own.

In helping to bring *Arcimboldo: Nature and Fantasy* to our nation's capital in 2010, Altria Group is honored to sponsor the first Arcimboldo exhibition ever presented in the United States. We are grateful to the National Gallery of Art for making this wonderful exhibition possible and for sharing it with us.