

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART

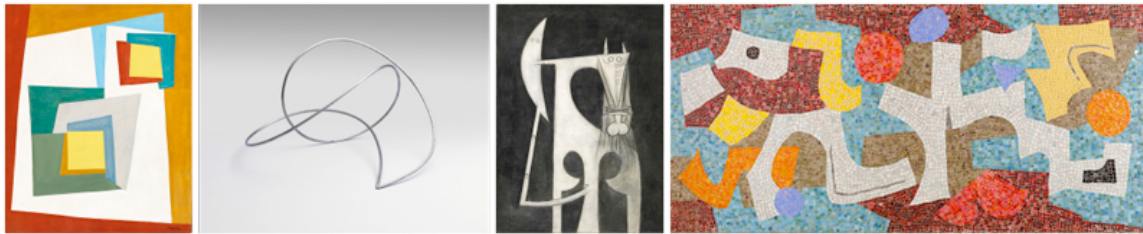
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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Kathleen Brady Stimpert, 512.475.6784, kathleen.bradystimpert@blantonmuseum.org

Stacey Ingram Kaleh, 512.471.8433, stacey.kaleh@blantonmuseum.org

BLANTON EXHIBITION FEATURES WORKS BY BOTERO, CALDAS, KAHLO AND OTHERS FROM RECENTLY GIFTED COLLECTION OF LATIN AMERICAN ART



La línea continua

September 20, 2014 - February 15, 2015

AUSTIN, Texas — September 2, 2014—The Blanton Museum of Art at The University of Texas at Austin presents ***La línea continua***, a selection of approximately 70 works from the Judy and Charles Tate Collection of Latin American art. Recently gifted to the museum, the collection—the entirety of which will ultimately come to the Blanton—includes painting, drawing, prints, sculpture, and mixed media works by artists Tarsila do Amaral, Lygia Clark, Frida Kahlo, Carlos Mérida, Wifredo Lam, Armando Reverón, Diego Rivera, Alejandro Xul Solar, and Joaquín Torres-García, among others. Spanning the early 20th century to the present, it features many artists who were key to the creation of modernism in Latin America.

“This exhibition represents the sensibilities of keen collectors while offering extraordinary insights into major art historical developments from Latin America over the last century,” states Beverly Adams, Blanton curator of Latin American art. “University and Austin visitors will get a sense of not only the evolving trajectory of Latin American art, but also the impact the Tate gift will have on the Blanton’s collection and engagement with the region.”

La línea continua takes its name from an elegant sculpture which will be on view in the exhibition by Enio Iommi: a stainless steel “line” that traces an infinite loop in space. Other highlights include a 1917 cubist-period drawing by Diego Rivera; two cubist paintings by Wifredo Lam; an abstract glass mosaic by Carlos Mérida; a 1946 drawing by Frida Kahlo; a 1951 surrealist painting by Leonora Carrington; mid-20th-century Kinetic art from Venezuelan masters Jesús Rafael Soto, and Carlos Cruz-Diez; Brazilian Concrete and Neoconcrete art by Lygia Clark, Willys de Castro and Hélio Oiticica; and whimsical contemporary works by Jorge Macchi and Sebastián Gordín.

A fully-illustrated catalogue of the Tate's gift will be published in fall 2014, and will include a preface by UT Austin President Bill Powers; an essay by Blanton Curator of Latin American Art Beverly Adams; and Blanton Director Simone Wicha in conversation with Judy and Charles Tate.

To bookend and contextualize the works in ***La línea continua***, the Blanton has organized two counterpart installations that together span much of the history, culture, and geography of Latin America. ***Re-envisioning the Virgin Mary: Colonial Painting from South America*** features seven paintings on loan from two of the country's most distinguished collections of colonial South American art—the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection, New York, and the Marilyn and Carl Thoma Collection, Chicago. The paintings, created in what are now the countries of Peru and Venezuela, represent devotions to Mary that were popular in Spain in the 17th and 18th centuries and brought to the Americas by Spanish colonists.

On the contemporary front, a selection of works from internationally recognized artist Doris Salcedo will be displayed. Salcedo addresses themes of loss and mourning with works that cross international boundaries. Employing domestic objects such as furniture and clothing—once activated and personal—her sculptures explore the history of violence and oppression in her native Colombia and beyond, giving voice to the marginalized, missing, or deceased.

The following programs will be hosted in conjunction with ***La línea continua***:

Wednesday, October 1st | 3:30 p.m.

Wellesley College Latin American Art Professor **James Oles** speaks about Mexican modernism as represented in the Tate collection.

Funding provided by the M.K. Hage Centennial Visiting Professorship in Fine Arts. Co-presented with the Center for Latin American Visual Studies.

Thursday, January 15 | 6:30 p.m.

Blanton curator of Latin American art Beverly Adams discusses the dialogues between European art and pioneering Latin American artists featured in the Tate collection.

Friday, November 7 | 6 p.m.

Colombian artist Doris Salcedo talks about her work and its connection to political history in conjunction with a special installation of her work at the Blanton

La línea continua is organized by the Blanton Museum of Art.

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The Blanton's Latin American Collection

The Blanton holds one of the oldest, largest, and most comprehensive collections of Latin American art in the country, featuring works by many artists underrepresented elsewhere in U.S. collections. Among those represented at the Blanton are Fernando Botero, Joaquín Torres-García, Carlos Cruz-Diez, Gego, Luis Camnitzer, and Cildo Meireles.

The collection was greatly enriched in 1971 with the donation of 54 paintings from the collection of John and Barbara Duncan. This gift was later expanded to include an additional 41 paintings and 227 works on paper. The Blanton's early leadership in the field of Latin American art and scholarship owes much to the Duncans' visionary gift.

With the addition of the Tates' gift, the Latin American collection now comprises more than 2,200 modern and contemporary paintings, prints, drawings, and sculptures, reflecting the great diversity of Latin American art and culture. More than 600 artists from Mexico, South and Central America, and the Caribbean are represented.

About the Blanton Museum of Art

Founded in 1963, the Blanton Museum of Art is one of the foremost university art museums in the country and holds the largest public collection in Central Texas. Recognized for its modern and contemporary American and Latin American art, Italian Renaissance and baroque paintings, and encyclopedic collection of prints and drawings, the Blanton offers thought-provoking, visually arresting, and personally moving encounters with art.

The museum is located at the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Congress Avenue and is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 - 5, Saturday from 11-5, and Sunday from 1-5. Thursdays are free admission days and every third Thursday the museum is open until 9. Admission Prices: Adults \$9, Kids 12 and under FREE, Seniors (65+) \$7, Youth/College Students (13-21) \$5. Admission is free to members, all current UT ID-holders. For additional information call (512) 471-7324 or visit www.blantonmuseum.org

Image captions:

Lothar Charoux
Composição I [Composition I], 1950
Oil on canvas, 23 13/16 x 19 1/16 in.
Gift of Judy S. and Charles W. Tate

Enio Iommi
Línea continua [Continuous Line], ca. 1950
Stainless steel, 9 5/8 x 11 3/4 x 11 3/4 in.
Gift of Judy S. and Charles W. Tate

Wifredo Lam
Untitled, 1948
Oil on canvas, 28 3/4 x 21 3/16 in.
Gift of Judy S. and Charles W. Tate

Carlos Mérida
Abstract, 1953
Glass mosaic on composition matrix
33 1/8 x 72 x 1 1/8 in.
Gift of Judy S. and Charles W. Tate