

The Blanton

Museum of Art

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BLANTON MUSEUM DISPLAYS HIGHLIGHTS FROM RENOWNED COLLECTION OF PRINTS AND DRAWINGS

Dynamic Exhibition Spans Raphael to Picasso to Mendieta and Kusama



Luminous: 50 Years of Collecting Prints and Drawings at the Blanton
June 8 – September 15, 2013

AUSTIN, Texas — March 21, 2013 — As part of a series of events organized in celebration of its 50th anniversary, the Blanton Museum of Art at the University of Texas at Austin presents *Luminous: 50 Years of Collecting Prints and Drawings at the Blanton*. On view June 8 – September 15, 2013, the exhibition highlights the breadth and depth of the museum’s collection of works on paper and provides a rare opportunity to see some of its finest examples displayed together for the first time.

Over the past five decades, the Blanton has built an encyclopedic collection of prints and drawings concentrating on three major areas: Latin American, European, and American. The museum holds works by masters Albrecht Dürer, Rembrandt van Rijn, Francisco Goya, Edgar Degas, Mary Cassatt, Pablo Picasso, Diego Rivera, Robert Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, and many others. Comprised of several major gifts and purchases — including the private collections of Leo Steinberg, John and Barbara Duncan, and James and Mari Michener, as well as nearly four hundred Old Master drawings acquired as part of the Suida-Manning Collection — the Blanton’s collection has an international reputation for its extraordinary works on paper and serves as a resource for art historians and other researchers in the field. *Luminous* signals the power of prints and drawings in fostering scholarship, igniting the imagination, and instilling wonder.

Francesca Consagra, the Blanton’s Senior Curator of Prints and Drawings, and European Paintings, describes the exhibition as a lens through which viewers can see how the Blanton built a collection of nearly 16,000 works of art on paper in just fifty years. “The opportunity to systematically review a

collection of almost 16,000 works on paper and to select a group of over 150 for presentation is both challenging and highly rewarding. With *Luminous*, our goal is to present works of great quality and rarity that reflect the collection's three major areas of concentration as well as works that point to new directions for the collection. We want to celebrate fifty years of thoughtful and inspired stewardship and connoisseurship."

Exhibition highlights include a self-portrait by Diego Rivera and Vik Muniz's *Jorge*, a portrait of the celebrated Brazilian musician Seu Jorge, Luca Cambiaso's *A Sibyl* (mid- 1570s), Pablo Picasso's *Minotaure aveugle guide par une fillette dans la nuit* (1933-34), Edward Coley Burne-Jones' *Study for the Head of the Virgin* (circa 1875), and Mary Cassatt's *In the Opera Box* (circa 1880).

Representing a wide range of subjects and techniques, *Luminous* celebrates the Blanton's impressive legacy and bright future.

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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, and all current UT ID-holders. For additional information call (512) 471-7324 or visit www.blantonmuseum.org.

For more information or high-resolution images, contact:

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Image Captions:

Diego Rivera
Autorretrato [Self-Portrait], 1930
Lithograph with gray tint stone, 18 3/8 in. x 13 15/16 in.
Archer M. Huntington Museum Fund, 1986.95

Vik Muniz
Jorge, 2003
Photogravure on silk collé, 51 15/16 in. x 41 1/2 in.
Gift of Jessica and Jimmy Younger in honor of Jonathan Bober, 2011.16