

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART

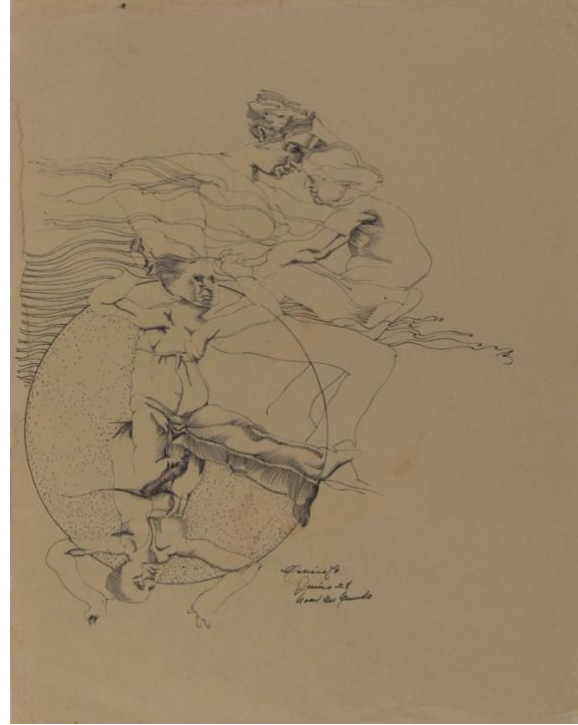


MEDIA ALERT: Mexican Artist Melecio Galván Finally Gets His First U.S. Exhibition

What: The Blanton Museum of Art at The University of Texas at Austin presents the first-ever U.S. museum exhibition dedicated to Mexican artist Melecio Galván. Although little-known during his short lifetime, Galván is posthumously considered one of the most accomplished Mexican draftsmen of the 20th century. Thanks to a recent donation, the Blanton has the single largest collection of his works.

Titled [*Meet Melecio Galván: The Secret Artist & His Mexican Contemporaries*](#), the exhibition features 46 of his rare drawings—most never before on view—alongside 15 works by his Mexican contemporaries, who lend context to Galván’s practice. Mostly self-taught, Galván is largely recognized for his inventive subjects and experimental compositions, as well as his innovative technical execution—employing several nontraditional techniques in pen and ink.

This long-awaited solo exhibition is a kind of homecoming for Galván: following his visit to Austin in the 1970s, plans were underway to exhibit his drawings in Austin and cities across the U.S., interrupted only by his untimely death. *Meet Melecio Galván* is a unique chance for visitors to finally get to know this under-recognized artist, whose mastery of drawing merits far wider recognition.



This exhibition explores Galván's drawings in all their formulations. Its themes range from tender scenes of mother and child to portraits of generals, men on horseback, and trios of violinists playing silently together.

When & Where: *Meet Melecio Galván* opens this Saturday, March 23, and is on view through August 25, 2024, in the Blanton's Paper Vault galleries.

Publication info: The first-ever bilingual publication on Melecio Galván, featuring writings by Blanton Curator of Latin American Art Vanessa Davidson and interviews with Galván's daughter Amaranta Galván Jiménez, is forthcoming.

Meet Melecio Galván: The Secret Artist & His Mexican Contemporaries is organized by the Blanton Museum of Art. Support for this exhibition at the Blanton is provided in part by Ellen and David Berman

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PRESS DETAILS:

Images are available [here](#).

For interviews with the curator (in English and Spanish) and press access to the exhibitions, please reach out to Katie Bruton, katie.bruton@blantonmuseum.org.

Image captions:

Melecio Galván, *Hombre [Man]* circa 1970, ink on paper, 10 1/4 × 14 1/2 in., Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin, Gift of Jeffrey B. Gold, 2020 © Melecio Galván Sánchez

(Left) Melecio Galván, *Sin título [Untitled]*, 1976, ink on paper, 23 × 15 3/4 in. Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin, Gift of Jeffrey B. Gold; (Right) Melecio Galván, *Sin título [Untitled]*, circa 1967–72, ink on paper, 25 1/2 × 20 in. Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin, Gift of Jeffrey B. Gold

About the Blanton Museum of Art:

Founded in 1963, the Blanton Museum of Art holds the largest public collection in Central Texas with more than 21,000 objects. Recognized as the home of Ellsworth Kelly's *Austin*, its major collecting areas are modern and contemporary U.S. and Latin American art, Italian Renaissance and Baroque paintings, and prints and drawings. The Blanton offers thought-provoking, visually arresting, and personally moving encounters with art.