

The Museum of Modern Art

MoMA RECEIVES MAJOR GIFT OF 90 WORKS OF CONTEMPORARY ART FROM THE COLECCIÓN PATRICIA PHELPS DE CISNEROS, REINFORCING THE MUSEUM'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO COLLECTING, EXHIBITING, AND RESEARCHING LATIN AMERICAN ART

Works from 48 Latin American Artists, Including Feliza Bursztyn, Alejandro Cesarco, Mario García Torres, and Cinthia Marcelle, to Enter the Museum's Collection

NEW YORK, January 10, 2018—The Museum of Modern Art announces that it has received a major gift of 90 works of contemporary art from the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, significantly enhancing the Museum's holdings of contemporary works by Latin American artists. Together with the establishment of the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Research Institute for the Study of Art from Latin America in 2016, and the more than 140 works by Latin American artists previously given to MoMA by Patricia and Gustavo Cisneros and the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, the new gift reinforces the longstanding relationship between the Museum and the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros and advances MoMA's commitment to exploring and fostering Latin American art and artists.

The gift includes works by 48 artists representing 10 Latin American countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. In addition to works by major artists already represented in MoMA's collection, including Luis Camnitzer, Gabriel Kuri, David Lamelas, Jac Leirner, José Leonilson, Cildo Meireles, and Miguel Rio Branco, 24 artists have entered into MoMA's collection for the first time, including Feliza Bursztyn, Alejandro Cesarco, Eugenio Espinoza, Regina José Galindo, Mario García Torres, Cinthia Marcelle, Claudio Perna, Amalia Pica, Wilfredo Prieto, Mauro Restiffe, José Alejandro Restrepo, Yeni & Nan, and David Zink Yi. Two significant works addressing Latin American histories and concerns, one by the German artist Lothar Baumgarten and one from New Zealand artist Michael Stevenson, are also included in the gift.

Produced between 1967 and 2014 and acquired into the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros between 1985 and 2015, the works in the gift will be represented across four different curatorial departments at MoMA: Drawings and Prints, Media and Performance Art, Painting and Sculpture, and Photography. They join 40 works previously given by Patricia and Gustavo Cisneros over the last 16 years, as well as the major gift from the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros in 2016, which added more than 100 iconic works of modern art by major artists from Latin America to the Museum's collection. Mrs. Cisneros is a longtime MoMA Trustee and a member of several acquisitions and funding committees, including the Latin American and Caribbean Fund, of which she is chairman and founder.

While the core modern gift donated last year is renowned for its focus on geometric abstraction, this contemporary gift reflects a shift by Latin American artists toward video, performance, photography, and more participatory forms of art. These new additions to the collection establish an important dialogue between an emerging generation of artists and the Museum's outstanding holdings of Latin American works in photography, media and performance, and Conceptual art from the 1960s and 1970s.

"We are tremendously grateful to Patty Cisneros and the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros for this extraordinary gift of 90 contemporary works, which will embolden The Museum of Modern Art's commitment to contemporary practices in Latin America," said Glenn D. Lowry, Director of The Museum of Modern Art. "This gift, along with Mrs. Cisneros's generous gift in 2016 of 100 iconic works of modern art, serves to build bridges between the landmark artists of the historical modern period and key voices emerging today, who continue to reshape the legacy of Latin American art. MoMA is proud to add these multidisciplinary works to further enrich our collection."

The Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros's mission is to advance scholarship and enhance the appreciation of the diversity, sophistication, and range of art from Latin America. This donation to The Museum of Modern Art is part of a global initiative that encompasses six international institutions with whom the CPPC has a long association and a shared mission to increase knowledge about art from Latin America in a global context. The gifts have been selected in collaboration with the museums to amplify and strengthen their holdings, while integrating new voices and artists into their collections. The other five institutions are the Museo de Arte de Lima (MALI); the Blanton Museum of Art at the University of Texas, Austin; the Museo de Arte Moderno de Buenos Aires; the Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York; and the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid.

"MoMA's engagement with contemporary art from Latin America started in 1931. Since that time, MoMA has supported initiatives to foster the study and appreciation of art from the region, and plans are underway to launch the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Research Institute for the Study of Art from Latin America, which will provide a framework to continue and deepen the Museum's research programs," said Patricia Phelps de Cisneros. "We are confident that this gift will add new voices to a world-renowned collection that places the art of Latin America in a global context."

Today, MoMA's collection includes more than 5,000 works by artists from Latin America. Reflecting a strong focus on new technologies, archival practices, and models of global thought, the gift will establish a critical base from which MoMA will continue to build a living collection and embrace and champion new developments in art from Latin America.

In 2016, MoMA established the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Research Institute for the Study of Art from Latin America, which has been conceived to generate an expansive approach to the interpretation of modern and contemporary art from Latin America. The Cisneros Institute will further develop the program of research conducted by the Latin American component of

C-MAP (Contemporary and Modern Art Perspectives in a Global Age), which MoMA initiated in 2009, and will facilitate the initiatives of the Museum's Latin American and Caribbean Fund in providing for the research of works of art. These initiatives are also supported by the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Bibliographer for Latin America in the Museum's Library. The Bibliographer is an endowed position made possible by funds Gustavo A. Cisneros donated in 2010 to ensure that the extensive Latin American library holdings are available to scholars and researchers.

The Museum will organize and present a major exhibition of modern works drawn from the Cisneros gift within the next few years, and will publish an accompanying scholarly catalogue.

A digital exhibition that presents a selection of the extraordinary artworks that have been given by Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, animated by the reflections of 16 MoMA curators can be found at: mo.ma/cisneros

Press Contacts:

Meg Montgoris, (212) 708-9757 or meg_montgoris@moma.org
MoMA Press Office, pressoffice@moma.org

For downloadable high-resolution images, register at moma.org/press or www.coleccioncisneros.org.

About the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros:

The Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros (CPPC) was founded in the 1970s by Patricia Phelps de Cisneros and Gustavo A. Cisneros and is one of the core cultural and educational initiatives of the Fundación Cisneros. Adriana Cisneros de Griffin is the current President of the Fundación Cisneros, and Gabriel Pérez-Barreiro is Director and Chief Curator of the CPPC. Based in New York City and Caracas, the CPPC's mission is to promote scholarship and enhance appreciation of the diversity, sophistication, and range of art from Latin America. The CPPC achieves these goals through the preservation, presentation, and study of the material culture of the Ibero-American world—ranging from the ethnographic to the contemporary. The CPPC's activities include exhibitions, public programs, publications, grants for scholarly research and artistic production. The CPPC's website (coleccioncisneros.org) offers a platform for debate concerning the contributions of Latin America to the world of art and culture. Its inspiration and launching point is the Colección Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, but its ambition is discovery, and its mission is to weave a multilingual, virtual network for people and ideas.

—