

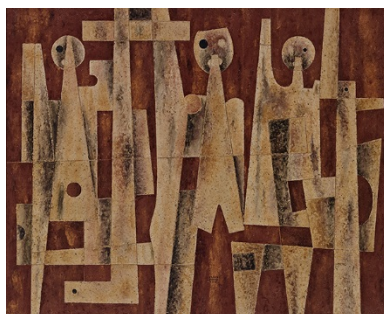


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**Art Gallery, USJ Presents
*Pan American Modernism –
Latin American and U.S. Art***



Carlos Mérida. *Abstract with Three Figures*. 1961. Oil, sand, and pencil on wood. Collection of Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami. ©Alma Mérida.

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. (August 26, 2015) – The Art Gallery at University of Saint Joseph will open *Pan American Modernism: Avant-Garde Art in Latin America and the United States* on Thursday, September 24 with a public reception from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Art Gallery is the first and only Northeast venue for this traveling exhibition. The Art Gallery, located in Bruyette Athenaeum on the University’s main campus at 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, is open to the public free of charge.

Developed by the Lowe Art Museum at the University of Miami (Fla.), the exhibition includes paintings, sculpture, works on paper, photography and mixed media works, many of them exhibited for the first time outside of the Lowe. More than 70 works by 60+ artists (from 12 countries) highlight artistic exchanges between 1919 and 1979, revealing modernism to have been an international phenomenon across the Americas. *Pan American Modernism* demonstrates that Caribbean, Central, and South American artists were important contributors to the experimental and innovative nature of modernism.

The exhibition is framed in five sections. “Mexican Muralism and Its Legacy” explores modern, socially minded art; “The Female Muse: Class, Gender, Race” examines international use of the female form to convey notions of race, artistic “primitivism,” and class distinction; “Modernist

Photography: Pan American Exchanges” examines artists who used the camera to work in genres such as studio portraiture, documentary photography, or social realism; the sections “Abstract Expressionism: A Pan American Language?” and “Geometric Abstraction and Its Legacy” investigate the development and far-reaching consequences of these important international movements.

Among the masters whose works are featured are Eduardo Abela, Wifredo Lam, Man Ray, Diego Rivera, Joaquín Torres-García, Adolph Gottlieb, Jacob Lawrence, Hans Hofmann, Lee Krasner, Manuel Álvarez Bravo, Matta, Romare Bearden, José Clemente Orozco, David Alfaro Siqueiros, José Luis Cuevas, Rufino Tamayo, Lola Álvarez Bravo, Man Ray, Robert Motherwell, Olga Albizu, Luis Hernández Cruz, Fernando Botero, Enrique Castro-Cid, Joaquín Torres-García, Richard J. Anuszkiewicz, Kenneth Noland, Frank Stella, Carlos Cruz-Diez, Pierre Daura, and Jesús Rafael Soto, among others.

Curated by Dr. Nathan Timpano, assistant professor of Art History at University of Miami, the exhibition is accompanied by a bilingual, fully illustrated catalogue with scholarly essays by Dr. Timpano; Dr. Edward J. Sullivan, the Helen Gould Sheppard Professor of the History of Art at New York University; and Dr. Heather Diack, assistant professor of Modern and Contemporary Art at the University of Miami.

The exhibition provides USJ an unprecedented opportunity to showcase art of the highest quality by important masters who are not represented in local museums and whose work is rarely seen together. Because of the stories it tells about travel and migration, cross-cultural exchange, and the influence of literary and political movements, *Pan American Modernism* offers rich opportunities for programming. In addition to bilingual (English/Spanish) Art Gallery tours, Family Guides, a Family Day at the Gallery, and K-12 lesson plans available online, the Art Gallery and University will present a wealth of related programming. This will include: a scholarly lecture by exhibition catalogue contributor Edward J. Sullivan; the PBS documentary *Latino Americans*, presented in six episodes, each with scholarly commentary and community discussion; a Spanish Language Film Series featuring works by Luis Buñuel; and Noche Latina, an annual celebration of music, dance and visual art. Programs are supported in part by Connecticut Humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Library Association. For further information, see www.usj.edu/panamerican or call 860.231.5367.

Pan American Modernism: Avant-Garde Art in Latin America and the United States was developed by Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami, with tour organized by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC. At the Art Gallery, USJ, it is supported in part by Connecticut Humanities, an anonymous donor, and the Karen L. Chase '97 Fund.

The Art Gallery, University of Saint Joseph is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; and Sunday: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.; closed Monday. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.usj.edu/artgallery.

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