

August, 2011
For immediate release

Malba turns 10
From Wednesday, September 21 to Friday, September 30,
ADMISSION TO THE MUSEUM FREE OF CHARGE

On September 21, 2011, Malba – Fundación Costantini will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its opening. In this period, the Museum has experienced sustained growth in terms of both the cultural events it makes available to the public and the number of visitors the Museum receives. Malba was founded for the purpose of collecting, preserving, studying and communicating Latin American art produced from the early 20th century until the present. In its ten-year existence, Malba has been **visited by over 3,200,000 individuals** –an average of 350,000 persons per year–. It has become a point of reference on the Latin American cultural scene.

Over the course of the last decade, Malba has strengthened and diversified its holdings. In addition to the mission of preserving, exhibiting and communicating art from Argentina and the rest of Latin America, the Museum has also become a **dynamic space for convergence and cultural debate.**

Malba's current **holdings** consist of **over 500 works of art** –more than twice the number at the time of its founding– thanks to the Acquisition Program, and donations and loans to the Museum. Since its opening, over **120 temporary exhibitions** of modern and contemporary art from Argentina, and the rest of Latin America and the world, have been held. Over **850 artists** have shown their work in solo and group exhibitions of art from Argentina and abroad, and more than **70 catalogues** have been published. Since its opening, Malba has also loaned over **130 works of art to other institutions** in Argentina and abroad.

"On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the opening of Malba, I would like to reaffirm Malba's strong commitment to the future. Along these lines, one strategic project that we hope to bring about in the short term is the expansion of the Museum's building. That would enable us to expand Malba's existing cultural and educational programs, and to increase the Museum's ability to produce and house exhibitions of still greater importance," explains F. Costantini, founder of the Museum. He goes on: *"Malba will also set out to strengthen and increase its presence on the cultural scene both throughout Argentina and abroad, furthering collaboration and exchange with institutions that share its values and eagerness to contribute to knowledge about and communication of Latin American art."*

International Position

Over the past ten years, a number of exhibitions produced by the Museum have been presented at different museums around the world, thus reinforcing Malba's presence on the international art scene. *Xul Solar. Visions and Revelations*, for instance, was presented at the Pinacoteca do Estado de São Paulo in 2005, and at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and the Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City in 2006. In 2007, *Víctor Grippo. A Retrospective. Works 1971-2001* was exhibited at Miami Art Central (MAC), and in 2009 *Félix González Torres. Somewhere / Nowhere, Algún lugar / Ningún lugar*, was shown at the Museo de Arte Universitario Contemporáneo of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM).

Malba has also become the local partner of prestigious international institutions, housing exhibitions and co-producing shows and catalogues. Along those lines, a **collaboration agreement between Malba and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston** (MFAH) has been in effect since 2005. The aim of the agreement is to encourage the exchange of exhibitions and works in both institutions' permanent collections, and to collaborate on the production of publications and other initiatives geared towards promoting Latin American art both in Latin American itself and in the United States. Starting on September 21, fourteen works from the MFAH collection will be on exhibit at Malba as part of a new vision of Latin American art. In April, 2012, Malba will send to Houston some of the most important works in its permanent collection.

Educational Programs

Since its beginnings, Malba has placed great emphasis on education as an essential tool to building an inclusive environment accessible to all visitors. In addition to its regular guided tours of the permanent collection and temporary exhibitions, and the programs for children, teens, families, schools, and senior citizens, the Museum has created programs for the physically and mentally handicapped; the deaf and the hearing impaired, and the blind and the visually impaired.

Since 2002, over **200,000 children have participated** in school and family visits, that is an average of 20,000 children per year from public and private schools; the admission fees paid by the private school students finance visits from the public schools, which receive transportation free of charge. Over **148,000 individuals have participated in educational programs** and activities geared towards senior citizens, the handicapped, students and educators.

Film and Literature

In these ten years, malba.cine has become one of the most important alternative film venues in Buenos Aires. **Over 450,000 individuals** have attended malba.cine screening, an average of 50,000 per year. Each year **20 Argentine films** by the new generation of filmmakers premiere at Malba. Furthermore, in conjunction with the Filмотeca Buenos Aires and the Asociación de Apoyo al Patrimonio Audiovisual (APROCINAIN), **Malba has restored 35 mm. copies of over 120 important films from Argentina and abroad.**

Malba.literatura's weekly program of activities **has been attended by over 75,000 individuals** who have participated in courses and attended presentations. Every year, an average of **30 courses** are given by important fiction writers, and over **50 activities open to the public free of charge** are held. Since 2008, Malba has been the seat of the Festival Internacional de Literatura en Buenos Aires (Filba).

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