

MALBA



Presentation

Malba – Fundación Costantini, Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires, opened its doors on September 21, 2001, as a not-for-profit institution featuring a permanent collection focused in Latin American Art. It is and also a dynamic cultural center that constantly updates art and film exhibitions and develops cultural activities. **Its current holdings consist of about 600 works**, more than double its size at the time of the museum's founding.

In May 2007, Malba was declared a **Place of Cultural Interest** by the Buenos Aires City Council. In November, 2008 it was awarded the **Konex de Platino** for the best cultural entity of the last decade. In 2009, received **Best Practices Award** for its programs for disabled people, awarded by INADI (Ministry of Justice, Security and Human Rights of the Argentinean Government). In 2010, the museum received the **Iberoamerican Prize Museum and Education**, by Proyecto Ibermuseos (inter-governmental organization composed of the OEI, the Brazilian Institute of Museums and the AECI); also received the **distinction for full accessibility**, awarded by COPIDIS (COPIDIS) under the Ministry of Human Rights, Inclusion and the Cabinet of Ministers, of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

MALBA



A brief history of the Fundación Eduardo F. Costantini and the origin of Malba

Since 1990, the Costantini Collection has been visited by local and international specialists and scholars; it has received numerous requests to loan its artworks to be exhibited in shows of Latin American art in different countries in the Americas and in Europe. In 1996, the collection was publicly presented as a whole for the first time in the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Buenos Aires. It was then shown at the Museo Nacional de Artes Visuales in Montevideo. Between 1998 and 1999, a large set of the collection's most outstanding works was shown at the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo, at the Museu de Arte Moderna de Rio de Janeiro and at the Fundación "La Caixa" in Madrid. On four occasions between 1997 and 2000, the Foundation awarded the Premio Costantini at the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Buenos Aires. This prize provided a stimulus to Argentinean artistic production at the same time that it served to incorporate works by the latest generation of artists into the collection by way of its acquisition first prize.

In late 1998, arose the possibility of purchasing a strategically located tract of land on the city's urban and cultural circuit for the construction of a museum. An international open call was then organized by the International Union of Architects, within the framework of the Bienal Internacional de Arquitectura de Buenos Aires. Four hundred and fifty proposals from 45 different countries were presented. The selection was made by an international jury of architects and the first prize was awarded to three young Argentinean architects: Gastón Atelman, Martín Fourcade and Alfredo Tapia.

The construction of the new building, the development of the institutional organization, the collection's expansion, the insertion of the museum on the international cultural map and, above all, the public stature of its objectives and mission were all challenges that eventually transformed a private passion into a project with enormous impact on the community.

MALBA



Cultural Program

Permanent Collection

Dedicated to Latin American art from the 20th century onwards, the Museum's permanent collection consists of **about 600 works by more than 160 artists** working from the beginnings of Modernism to very recent times. It includes artists and works from Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Mexico, Ecuador, Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela, Chile, as well as other countries.

The diversity and complexity of the art from the region is represented in paintings, sculptures, drawings, collages, photographs, videos, installations and objects. The collection is organized around four chronological-thematic clusters: the different strains of Modernism and Latin American avant-gardes from the 1920s; paintings from the 1930s and 1940s that demonstrate the range of surrealisms and the debate around art and politics; a group of works of abstract and concrete art, from *Madí* to Kinetic Art; and finally contemporary production, with works from the 1960s and 1970s associated with tendencies like New Figuration, Pop Art, Conceptualism and Minimalism.

Acquisitions Program

As of 2004 Malba launched its Acquisitions Program with the purpose of expanding its collection to include contemporary art and completing its historical holdings. The results of this Program —funded by Fundación Costantini, the Asociación de Amigos and a group of people who generously agreed to respond to the call—are exhibited every year together with works that are acquired by the Museum thanks to our donations and loans programs. This program has provided the museum with more than 300 works in a seven-year period, thus doubling the size of the founding endowment.

In addition, the Feria de Galerías arteBA / Zurich and Pinta Arte Fair in New York / IDB (Inter-American Development Bank) called on Malba to participate together with other museums on its programs Matching Funds. Also, Fundación American Express, within the framework of Buenos Aires Photo, donates (2007–2013) funds for the acquisition of one art work for Malba collection. In 2011, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the opening of Malba, the Museum received major donations, including a work by Guillermo Kuitca donated by the Asociación de Amigos, and a work by Kenneth Kemble donated by his daughter.

In March 2014, Argentinean artist Ricardo Garabito donated 31 works, the first donation of a group of works to the museum collection.

MALBA



Curatorship

Temporary Exhibitions

Malba combines exhibitions of Argentine, Latin American and international art with an average of four major shows per season, each of which is on display for approximately two months. These exhibitions entail a dynamic interplay of guest local, regional and international curators; Malba productions as well as shows produced in conjunction with other institutions, and touring exhibitions that Malba houses.

Contemporary Program

A program dedicated to local and regional contemporary art, with the aim of helping to create a space for professional curatorial practice, and a space of discussion for the production of American contemporary artists. This program shows individual and group exhibitions.

Until April 2014, **thirty-one editions have been carried out** in exhibitions on the building's ground level.

Intervention Program

A program offers local artists and artists from the region an architectural and symbolic space in which to create a work with a specific connection to the Museum's building. Until December 2011, **six intervention projects** have been carried out:

- Intervención 1. Román Vitali: Luz (oct. 2002 / may 2003)
- Intervención 2. Cristina Schiavi. La toma (sept. / may. 2004)
- Intervención 3. Coloso. Una intervención de Hernán Marina (ago. 2004/jun. 2005)
- Intervención 4. Fabián Marcaccio. Ezeiza Paintant (oct. 2005/ nov. 2006)
- Intervención 5. Cecilia Szalkowicz. Todo es posible (jun. 2007 / may. 2008)
- Intervención 6. Pablo Reinoso. Enredamaderas (marzo 2009 – dic 2011)

MALBA



Publications

Malba has an annual program of publications, and they serve as a fundamental instrument for documentation, registry, study and dissemination that will endure over time as a source of knowledge and education for society. Whether edited by the Museum or co-produced with the other institutions involved in organizing the exhibition, Malba publishes catalogs for each temporary exhibition.

The Museum has published over eighty titles, making Malba - Fundación Costantini one of the largest publishers of art books and catalogues in the country. Many of its publications have won awards from the Argentine Association of Art Critics; in many cases, books published by Malba have been the first ever in Argentina on major artists like Oscar Bony, Glauber Rocha, Víctor Grippo and others.



Education and Cultural Activities

The Education and Cultural Activities department is essential to bringing the **Museum closer to everyone** as a space that is open to the community. Malba seeks to promote familiarization with different aspects of art history, to foster dialogue between works and the public and to broaden recognition of our region's cultural diversity. Its educational programs include special activities for children, adolescents, adults and seniors, and they focus on issues and themes present in each exhibition. Malba's team of educators investigates in order to design unique pedagogical strategies and resources and to encourage working in conjunction with other institutions.

Linked to the permanent collection and temporary exhibitions, the area of Education and Cultural Action develops **different proposals adapted to the needs of different public:**

- Children, Teenagers and Families
- Schools groups, community centers
- Students and teachers
- Programs for Young People and Adults
- Programs for Senior Visitors

Since 2006 this department works **to provide full access to its educational proposals** and also offers activities for children and adults with various disabilities. During the winter and summer holidays, proposals that include visits, workshops, activities with films, music and theater performances by the educational team and guest artists. Cultural activities also invite the adult audience to reflect and discuss issues linked to Latin American and international art with specialists. Along with the temporary exhibitions, lectures are developed with curators and artists, courses, in their own showrooms. Conferences and debates with experts from different disciplines are also held.

MALBA



malba.cine

Is one of the few venues in the city of Buenos Aires offering independent features, as well as film-format series of works from its own collection and obtained through constant collaboration with the Filmoteca Buenos Aires [Buenos Aires Film Archive]. Since it began operating on a regular basis in July 2002, malba.cine has shown on average fifty films a month. It has held exclusive premieres of a great many independent productions from Argentina and abroad, as well as special series from different countries, and has contributed to the preservation of local audiovisual holdings by printing new copies of Latin American classics.

Since its inception, Malba is **one of the sites of BAFICI** (Independent Film Festival of Buenos Aires), retrospectives and exhibitions developed in the context of this festival.

MALBA



malba.literatura

Dedicated to literature, this program is motivated by the need to **generate awareness of and conserve Argentinean and Latin American literature**; its objective is to provide a meeting place and a setting for dialogue between the general public and outstanding figures from the fields of literature, philosophy and art, as well as other players on the contemporary cultural scene. Since the program's beginning, numerous writers and intellectuals have presented books, given conferences, courses and seminars, and have participated in congresses and events that pay homage to different figures.

In November 2008, malba.literatura launched the first **International Literature Festival in Buenos Aires (Festival Internacional de Literatura en Buenos Aires - Filba)** that, until 2013, has completed five editions. An unprecedented event on the Argentine literary scene, the event became part of the most ambitious Fundación FILBA project, coordinated by María Soledad Costantini (director of malba.literatura) and Pablo Braun (director of Eterna Cadencia Libros).

El hilo de Ariadna, a publishing project led by Leandro Pinkler and María Soledad Costantini, started its work with the translation of Carl Gustav Jung's *The Red Book*. The publication entailed the translation of ancient Hindu, Buddhist and Hermeticist sources on what is called *Sophia perennis*, or primordial wisdom, from Medieval, Renaissance and Modern times. The publishing house is geared towards the publication of 20th- and 21st-century thinkers and researchers who enlighteningly explain the different manifestations of sacred symbolism, such as mythology, Eastern and Western religion, spiritual exercises, sacred art, philosophy and literature.

MALBA



Tiendamalba | Design

The **museum's store** is dedicated to **housing, promoting and developing an array of expressions in the field of design from Argentina and the rest of Latin America**. It does so through supporting both established and emerging creators. Tiendamalba selects, displays and sell Latin American design objects. Its objective is to identify and promote the participation of architects, industrial designers and local textiles. It organizes a series of monthly presentations on projects related to the design and its applications, and an annual program that addresses the problem of children's toys design.

Tiendamalba hosts the **museum's bookstore**, where a wide range of publications on art and design, as well as catalogues produced by Malba-Fundación Costantini, are on exhibit and available for purchase.

It is also a platform for the **dissemination of Latin American design and exchange with other institutions**. In 2005, Malba associated with MoMA (The Museum of Modern Art in New York) to produce its Destination: Design series, which attempts to spread information and knowledge about the most representative designers in the region. The first initiative was Destination: Buenos Aires - New Argentine Design. In 2007, MoMA invited Malba to participate in Destination: Brazil, which brought together Brazilian designers.

MALBA



Malba in numbers 2001-2014

- Since the time of its founding, the Museum has been visited by over **4,000,000** individuals; in a few years' time it has become a major cultural landmark in the city of Buenos Aires.
- **30%** of the visitors are foreign. Malba is “a must” for tourists visiting Buenos Aires.
- Malba's current holdings consist of over **520 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 2002, Malba has loaned over **250 works** to other institutions, from the Museo Castagnino in Rosario to MoMA in New York, putting Argentina on the map in terms of contemporary culture.
- Over **150 temporary exhibitions** of art from Argentina, and the rest of Latin America and the world, have been held.
- Over **900 artists** have shown their work in solo and group exhibitions of art from Argentina and abroad.
- More than **80 catalogues**, an essential body of reference material on Argentine and international art, have been published.

The exhibitions to receive the largest number of visitors

1. Yayoi Kusama. Infinite Obsession (2013)
Curators: Philip Larratt-Smith and Frances Morris
206.000 visitors

2. Andy Warhol. Mr America (2009-2010)
Guest curator: Philip Larratt-Smith
196.022 visitors

3. Carlos Cruz-Diez. El color en el espacio y en el tiempo. (2011-2012)
Guest curator: Mari Carmen Ramírez
140.234 visitors

4. Antonio Berni and his Contemporaries. Correlates (2005)
Guest curator: Adriana Lauría
110.681 visitors

5. Dreaming with Open Eyes. Dada and Surrealism in the Vera and Arturo Schwarz Collection, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem (2004)
98.120 visitors

6. Guillermo Kuitca. Works 1982-2002 (2003)
Organized with Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía
97.011 visitors

7. Marta Minujín. Works 1959-1989 (2010-2011)
Guest curator: Victoria Noorthoorn
90.780 visitors

8. Xul Solar. Visions and revelations (2005)
Guest curator: Patricia Artundo
87.647 visitors

9. Roy Lichtenstein. Drawings. Animated Life (2006)
Guest curator: Lisa Phillips, Director, New Museum of Contemporary Art
70.018 visitors

10. Bye Bye American Pie (2012)
Curator: Philip Larratt-Smith
63.706 visitors

MALBA



malba.cine

- malba.cine is currently **the most important private alternative film venue in the city**.
 - Over **450,000 persons** have screened films at malba.cine, an average of 50,000 per year.
 - Each year 20 Argentine films premiere at malba.cine.
 - 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.
- Since its founding, Malba has been a seat of BAFICI (the Buenos Aires independent film festival), organized by the Buenos Aires city government.

Education and Cultural Activities

- Over 200,000 children have participated in school visits and family programs, an average of 20,000 children per year.
- Since 2003, over 150,000 individuals have participated in Malba's educational programs and programs geared towards senior citizens, the handicapped, students and educators.

malba.literatura

- Over 90,000 individuals have participated in courses and presentations organized by the Museum's Literature Department.
- 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.
- Between 2008-2013, five editions of the Festival Internacional de Literatura en Buenos Aires (Filba) were held.

MALBA



Useful Information

Malba – Fundación Costantini

Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires

www.malba.org.ar | info@malba.org.ar

Facebook – Twitter – YouTube @museomalba

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Museum Hours

From Thursday through Monday and Holidays, from 12:00 a 20:00.

Wednesday till 21:00. Closed Tuesday.

Admission

Adults: ARS 60. Teachers and Seniors: ARS 30. Students: ARS 30.

Children under 5: free of charge.

People with disability: free of charge.

Wednesday: General: ARS 30. Students, Teachers and Seniors: free of charge.

People with disability: free of charge.

malba.cine

General: ARS 45. Students and Seniors: ARS 23.

Subscription: ARS 200. Students and seniors: ARS 100.